



Principal's News

Friday 20 February 2026

Kia ora, Malo e Lelei, Talofa Lava, Ni Hao, Namaste, Bula Vinaka, Fakaalofa Lahi Atu, Kia orana, Mauri, Greetings.

We are now three weeks into the new school year, and I am pleased to share that our students are settling well into their new classes and routines.

Pods and classrooms are focused and productive, with students building positive relationships with their teachers and peers. It has been great to see how quickly they have adapted and engaged with their new learning spaces, teachers and learning support staff.

Our newest little learners have made a positive start to school life at MCS. They are enjoying exploring our outdoor play areas, making new friends, and beginning their learning journeys with enthusiasm. It is wonderful to see their confidence growing each day as they become familiar with routines and learning expectations at school. They are proud of the activities they are doing and they love to share their work and see their efforts displayed around their classroom.

Our swimming programmes have now begun and students are developing their confidence and skills in the pool. It is a lovely cool place to be on our hot days. Our Garden to Table programme is also underway. Students have been working in the gardens - weeding, harvesting, learning about seedlings, preparing soil, and planting seeds. The cooking activities are always a highlight! It is great to see our students gaining practical knowledge and learning how to care for the garden areas.

Our senior students are visiting our local library, making the most of the opportunity to enjoy the programmes with the library team. Our Year 6 students are excited as they prepare for school camp. What a fabulous adventure for them. Tī Kōuka students are enjoying their weekly gymnastics sessions at the Bruce Pulman Park in Papakura, where they are developing coordination and physical confidence.

We are very proud of our senior school students who represented the school this week at the interschool swimming event at Manurewa High School. Our swimmers can feel proud of their excellent efforts and sportsmanship. Thank you to Miss Hopkinson who managed our school team.

It has been wonderful to see so many happy faces each day. Our students are engaged, positive, and eager to participate in a variety of activities at school. I believe this is a true reflection of our strong partnership between home and school.

Thank you for your continued support as we begin what promises to be a fantastic year of learning and growth for all our students. We look forward to sharing many more highlights with you in the weeks ahead.

Kia pai tō rā whakatā

Sandy Griffin
Acting Principal

These students have been recognised by their class teachers for displaying our school value



Totara	Kōwhai	Ti Kouka	Nikau
Jaeleen	Luke	Hezekiah	Premans
Reyansh	Cairo	Aavya	Nina
Jayla	Loretta	Kabir	Genevieve
Puriri	Titoki	Rimu	Kauri
Jamie	Eli	Chrysam	Anaggha
	Kahurangi	Nixon	Amin
	Ethan	Elisa-Aida	Jayden

Pūriri

The tamariki in Pūriri have been working hard already! Learning our classroom routines and starting to read and write some words. So far we have reached the line in our pompom jar twice, our first reward was a dance party, our second reward was "Bluey and popcorn!". We earn pompoms by working hard, helping and being kind to others, and doing the right thing.

Important Dates

Year 6 Camp
Monday 16 March - Wednesday 18 March

House Colour Day
Thursday 2 April

Last Day of Term 1
Thursday 2 April



Kōwhai

What a wonderful start we have had to the year in Kōwhai! We have been busy getting to know our new classmates, learning each other's names, and building new friendships. It has been great to see tamariki showing kindness and including others in games and learning. Together we have revisited classroom routines and practised how to settle quickly, listen carefully, and begin our work independently. Our school value this term is **Respect**, and we have been talking about what respect looks like at school - using kind words, listening to others, and taking care of our own belongings. We have already enjoyed lots of learning activities. The children wrote about things they love and created special heart artworks to match their writing. We designed and made creative "All About Me" monsters that share interesting facts about who we are. We have also been learning about Chinese New Year, drawing bright dragons and beautiful lanterns as part of our celebrations. We are so proud of the positive start everyone has made and look forward to a happy and busy term ahead!

Kauri

Kauri Ngahere have had a great start to the year. We've been getting to know our new classmates and teachers as we settle into 2026. We have started swimming three times a week and have been enjoying a refreshing start to the day. Many of our students have stepped up to take on leadership roles both in our class and across the school, and we are looking forward to seeing them embrace these roles with commitment and enthusiasm. We're eagerly anticipating our upcoming Year 6 camp at Camp Adair and cannot wait for three days of fun with friends and teachers. We are all looking forward to the learning and growth that this year will bring.

Nikau

Welcome back to 2026. All children have settled back into school well and teachers are pleased with how Nikau children are giving some new sports a go (cricket, softball and soon to be Rippa Rugby) as well as having a 'give it a try' attitude in class. For the last 2-3 weeks we have had a focus on Growth Mindset, and it is beginning to show in how they are taking small risks with their learning. Swimming has started - it has been great to see the majority of children coming prepared for swimming lessons. Thank you to parents who are providing letters or medical certificates for those too unwell at the moment. As part of our topic of 'Culture and Identity', all children in Nikau are working on their self-portrait using different media. These should be complete by the end of next week - feel free to drop in before or after school to check them out!

Tōtara

We have had a great start to school in Tōtara Pod! The children were very excited to meet their new teachers and friends and are settling into school well. The children enjoyed exploring their classroom and the outdoor areas. They love all the new playgrounds, play areas and equipment. We have already started learning to read, write and count and take home reading books each night to show our families that we are readers already! It has been a great start to the school year and it is wonderful to see so many happy faces running into school each morning, excited to start their day!

Rimu

What a beginning to the year! The students have settled in nicely to Rimu pod and things are humming along wonderfully. We've been lucky enough to have Miss T, a student teacher, join us. It's been great to cool off and practice swimming in the pool each day. We have started the spelling code, visited the library and we have even made yummy pumpkin mash. We look forward to seeing what the rest of the term has in store for us.

Tī Kōuka

It was wonderful to welcome parents and caregivers to our pod last Thursday afternoon. We are really enjoying getting to know your children and seeing how happy they all are. We have enjoyed two weeks of gymnastics at Bruce Pulman Park and we can see great new skills developing. Swimming is the highlight of the day. The pool is so warm and the children are focused on learning to keep safe in the water. We have to restrain ourselves from jumping in too!

Titoki

Hooray! It's been a great start to the year as we settle into routines and get to know each other. We are delighted to have started our swimming sessions this week. The best part is that we swim after lunch, which gives us a chance to cool down after having our big play. This week, we've been discussing Chinese New Year. Here are some of the facts we've learned:

- Chinese New Year is also called Lunar New Year.
- Red and gold are lucky colours.
- Dragons are important symbols in Chinese culture.

Gong Xi Fa Cai! Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning, growing and having fun!

Year 6 Camp 2026

We are heading into the final stages of preparing for our Year 6 Camp. Please ensure that payment is sorted and all necessary paperwork is returned to your child's teacher ASAP.

On Monday 16th March, children need to arrive at school by 8:30 AM and go straight to the Auditorium.

On Wednesday 18th March, children will arrive back to school by 2:30 PM. Parents/Caregivers will need to collect children from the School Auditorium.

Staff will keep you informed about Camp via Dojo, our school Facebook page or email.



2026 School Councillors

Meilani	Micah
Aliyah	Rona
Jayden	Megan
Zoravar	Indianna
Levi	Benny
Lucy	



House and Sports Leaders

KAKA
Anelise, Hargun, Shylon, Yusuf

TŪI
Amin, Zoe, Zac, DeAndre

WEKA
Gurman, Lucan, Tanishka, Emma

HUIA
Tyrone H, Levi, Mia, Gemma

