



Manurewa South School Newsletter

26/05/2026

Kia ora, Talofa Lava, Mālō e Lelei, Namaste,

It is hard to believe we are already at the midpoint of Term 2! What an amazing and busy term it has been. Our students have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm, curiosity, and positivity, and we are incredibly proud of the learning, growth, and experiences happening across our school.

One of the highlights of the term has been our exciting EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) experiences. Students thoroughly enjoyed their visits to Butterfly Creek and the Hologram Zoo, where learning was brought to life through hands-on exploration and interactive experiences. We were also fortunate to welcome firefighters to our school, giving students the opportunity to learn about fire safety, community service, and the important role firefighters play in keeping us safe.

Alongside these wonderful experiences, there has been a great deal happening behind the scenes as we continue preparing for upcoming Ministry of Education changes around reporting to parents. Staff have been working collaboratively to ensure our reporting processes continue to clearly celebrate student progress, achievement, and next learning steps while meeting the new expectations. We appreciate your ongoing support as we work through these changes together.

Thank you to our students, staff, and whānau for making this term such a positive and successful one so far. We look forward to all the exciting learning and events still to come this term.

Ngā mihi nui,
Karen Hohaia Turuwhenua and Kelly Wong

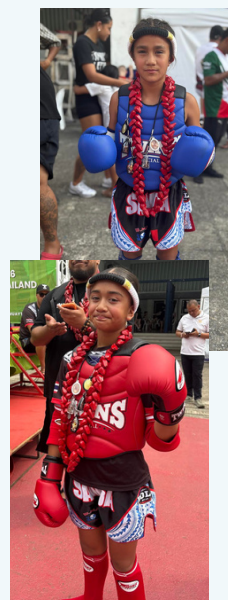
**COMING
SOON**

UP AND COMING DATES

- Year 5 Ecosystems Trip - Friday 29th May
- Boys Rugby Interschool Comp- Wednesday 27th May
- Kings Birthday Monday 01st June (Public Holiday- SCHOOL CLOSED)
- Positive Puberty Programme- Thursday 11th June
- Samoan Language Week- Week 6 (01-05 June)
- Whole School Assembly 05th June
- Life Ed- Week 9-10 Year 3-6 Students
- Madagascar Live Stage Show Friday 26 June (Year 0-2)
- Parent Teacher Interviews Tuesday 30th June (School will close at 12.00 on this date)

SHOUT OUT

We would like to do a shout out to two of our students. Last term Nakaiya and Jayaana attended the WMF competition in Bangkok Thailand. Nakaiya come home with 2 golds and holds a world champion title. Jayanna came home with a silver and a gold medal. We are so proud of your achievements!!!



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

at School!



Butterfly Creek Trips Year 0-3

As part of our discoveries unit around Organism Diversity, our Year 0-3 students visited butterfly Creek! We had an awesome few days exploring and learning about different animals. GOLDIE was definitely a highlight for many of our tamariki!

Hologram Zoo Trip

Our Year 4 students explored animals through a different lense at Hologram Zoo! A new experience for many of our tamariki and staff.



Manurewa Firestation Visit

As part of our Fire Safety Unit for Year 0-2, we had a visit from the Fire Fighters of Manurewa Fire Station! Such a rich experience for our tamariki!

Our key take aways for whanau were;

- Keep matches and lighters out of reach
- Keep looking when you're cooking
- Keep a meter from the heater
- Make sure smoke alarms are working
- Make a family escape plan
- GET DOWN, GET LOW, GET OUT – FAST



Get down

get low

get out - FAST

PINK SHIRT DAY

Pink Shirt Day is an important opportunity for us at Manurewa South School to stand together against bullying and celebrate kindness, inclusion, and respect. It reminds us that every person deserves to feel safe, valued, and accepted for who they are.

At MSS, we celebrated Pink shirt day on Tuesday 19th May. Pink Shirt Day connects strongly to our school values and the way we care for one another each day. We encourage our students to show kindness through their words and actions, include others in play and learning, and speak up when someone needs support. By wearing pink, we send a powerful message that bullying has no place in our school and that together we can create a positive environment where everyone belongs.

Pink Shirt Day is more than just wearing a colour — it is about building a culture of respect, empathy, and standing strong together as a school whānau.



UNDERSTANDING BULLYING AT SCHOOL

At Manurewa South School, we want all children to feel safe, respected, and included. Sometimes children may have disagreements or friendship issues, and while these situations can be upsetting, they are not always considered bullying.

Bullying is behaviour that is **deliberate, repeated over time**, and involves a power imbalance. This can include physical actions, hurtful words, social exclusion, online behaviour, or intimidation that is intended to make someone feel unsafe or powerless.

What bullying IS:

- Repeated teasing, name-calling, or put-downs
- Deliberately excluding someone over time
- Threatening, intimidating, or physically hurting others
- Online messages or actions intended to upset or embarrass someone repeatedly

What bullying is NOT:

- A one-off disagreement or argument
- Accidental hurt or misunderstandings
- Friendship changes or occasional conflict
- Children disagreeing or not getting along at times

Learning how to solve problems, manage emotions, and repair friendships is an important part of growing up. At MSS, we support students to develop these skills while also taking all concerns seriously and working closely with families when needed.

We encourage students to speak up, seek help, and show kindness towards others so that together we can continue building a positive and inclusive school environment for everyone.

KEEPING OUR SCHOOL SAFE AFTER HOURS

At Manurewa South School, the safety of our students, staff, and school environment is very important to us. We ask our whānau and community members to help us care for our school by reporting any suspicious or unsafe after-hours activity on or around the school grounds.

This may include vandalism, damage to property, trespassing, unsafe behaviour, or anyone on site outside appropriate hours. If you notice anything concerning, please contact the Police if urgent, or notify the school as soon as possible so we can respond appropriately.

By working together as a community, we can help keep MSS a safe, welcoming, and respectful place for everyone.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Follow Up

The following is how attendance is followed up at Manurewa South School.

1 Day Absent: Classroom teacher makes contact via phone or email

2-4 Days Absent: Repeated contact made by Office (Mrs Wigg)

5 Days Absent- Referred to Acting Principal Karen to continue follow up communication.

15+ during a term- Referral to Alfriston Attendance Services

Extended Leave and Overseas Travel

If your child is going to be away from school for an extended period of time, a letter needs to be supplied to the school outlining the details of their absence, including dates of return.

If your child does not return on the date provided and no contact is made with the school, you are at risk of being unenrolled. If you live outside of our school zoning, this will then mean you are at risk of not being eligible to re-enrol with us.



It is our last week of MAKE IT COUNT MAY!

If you are not already signed into our school APP, we strongly suggest jumping on board!

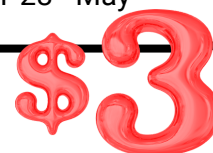
Your child's reports will feature here at the end of the term and we will be launching class and team learning up dates from term 3.

Teachers are available outside classrooms this week from 2.45-3.00 to support any whanau who need help downloading and logging in.



PYJAMA AND HOT CHOCOLATE DAY

THURSDAY 28th May



Five Progress Descriptors

Progress Descriptor	Descriptions for Parents and Whānau
1 Emerging Students require support to meet curriculum expectations for their year level and/or goals as described in their personalised learning plan.	Your child: - Is beginning to understand some learning ideas for their year level with a lot of support. - Can sometimes use knowledge they've learned, but usually needs help to do so. - Is making some progress in ways that are meaningful and aligned to their strengths and needs, with significant support.
2 Developing Students are making some progress towards curriculum expectations for their year level.	Your child: - Is starting to understand key ideas, often with some support. - Can remember facts and use what they've learned in familiar situations, with a bit of help. - With the right support, your child is making progress towards the expectation for their year level.
3 Consolidating Students are meeting many curriculum expectations for their year level and are steadily strengthening their understanding across learning areas.	Your child: - Is learning to use helpful techniques on their own to support their learning. - Is getting better at remembering and using what they have learned. - Is starting to use what they know in new and different situations. - Can share their ideas and is beginning to talk about what they would do better.
4 Proficient Students are meeting curriculum expectations for their year level.	Your child: - Can use helpful learning techniques on their own and knows how to use them well. - Can use what they've learned in different situations without help. - Can often use what they know in new situations. - Can share their thoughts clearly and explain their reasoning. - Often shares their ideas to build knowledge.
5 Exceeding Students are exceeding curriculum expectations for their year level.	Your child: - Shows advanced thinking by understanding tricky ideas, solving problems, making connections, and explaining their thinking clearly. - Can link what they've learned in one area or situation to another. - Can build on their ideas and show deeper understanding. - Can use what they've learned in thoughtful and creative ways to understand more challenging ideas. - Tests and challenges ideas to create deeper knowledge.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Part of the new guidelines for reporting to parents includes the use of the new progress descriptors.

Progress descriptors are clear and positive, and help identify where a child is achieving within their year level, and what is needed to support further progress.

At the end of the year, children who are proficient or above show they are ready for the next year of learning.

Progress Descriptors are now a fundamental part of our reporting system and will feature heavily in our reports at the end of term.

There will be more support provided to whanau to help with your understanding about what these descriptors mean for your child.

