
Newsletter

Maniototo Area School

	AUGUST 2025	
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Dear parents and caregivers,

The school is currently abuzz with activity. Our junior school has been immersed in the world of wool, this has been a highly engaging topic for students and we have really appreciated the support of so many community members in this learning programme. In the high school we have a strong focus on internal assessments and preparation for the final round of corequisite assessments for 2025. I am so proud of how the students are working diligently with real focus. I would like to acknowledge the teaching staff for all of the support they are providing our learners. We also have our senior hockey team away for tournament week. From field trips and guest speakers to after school tutorials and co-curricular activities, we are certainly providing rich learning opportunities across all year levels, and it is wonderful to be part of.

I spent the end of last week at Area School's Conference in Christchurch. As always, this is a valuable opportunity to see what other area schools are doing, and to celebrate the achievements of area school students. I would like to acknowledge the members of the Board who gave up their time to attend this important professional development.

And this brings me to my final message today - don't forget to vote in Board elections. We are fortunate to have a strong and collegial Board of Trustees to help guide our school. I thank all parents who put their hand up to run for our Board, your willingness to give your time is commendable.

Kind regards,

Melissa Bell

Maniototo Area School

SAVE THE DATE

5th September - Otago Cross Country (postponement date 12th)

5th - 7th September - SISS Curling (Dunedin)

9th September - School Photos

10th September - Election Day. Voting closes at noon.

15th - 19th September - Senior Exams

16th September - Interschool Curling Competition (Primary)

16th September - BOT Meeting

19th September - Last Day of Term 3

20th - 22nd September - Nationals Curling Competition, Naseby

6th October - Term 4 commences

School Photos

School photos will be taken on Tuesday 9th September. We want everyone looking their best, so please make sure students come dressed in tidy, correct school uniform and smiles ready!

Family and sibling photos will be taken before school starting between 8.15am and 8.30am. Uniform is available from NZ Uniforms in Moray Place, 342 Moray Place, Dunedin or online: <https://maniototo.nzuniforms.com>

Rugby

Hugo Paterson has been playing in a Year 8 team selected from Maniototo, Matakanaui, Clyde, Alexandra & Roxburgh areas to come together & compete in 4 tournaments against other Year 8 teams Otago wide. They have played in tournaments in Alexandra, Dunedin, & Wanaka.

They WON yesterday against Queenstown in the final for the Wanaka tournament which was very exciting!

A highlight for the team has been beating all 3 Dunedin metro teams.

They now have a nationwide 3 day global games tournament to compete in, this is being held in Queenstown 5-7 September.

The team wore Maniototo jerseys for the Dunedin tournament which was very exciting for the Maniototo boys.



Maniototo Area School

Hockey



The Maniototo Year 7 & 8 Hockey team finished off their successful season on a real high. This was their first season playing 11 a side. They were grateful to Laura and Tayla who stepped in to play in the boys grade boosting their numbers.

They played Alexandra in the final and the Maniototo Kwik Boys team took the win 1 - 0.

Our secondary team are currently at tournament week in Dunedin, we look forward to watching their progress.

Fresh Fruit



Students in Room 1 have been enjoying a refreshing treat this week – fruit salad made with delicious produce from Twisted Citrus sent direct from Gisborne.

The best news is that thanks to the generosity of our PTA, this healthy snack will be available for our students through to the end of term.

It's been a great way to encourage healthy eating, and the kids are loving the variety of flavours.

A simple, tasty and healthy boost to their day!



SafeZone Magazine



To access this free online safety magazine on your PC go to:

<https://communitysafety.co.nz/magazine.php?m=277>

Formal 2025

The school formal was an unforgettable evening filled with elegance, laughter, and celebration. From the stunning outfits to the beautifully decorated venue, every detail contributed to a magical atmosphere set to the theme "Under the Sea".

Students danced the night away and enjoyed delicious food, having a great night out with their friends. The energy was electric, with a real sense of togetherness unique to our school made it truly special.

Huge thanks to Ms Brooks and Ms Sillibourne for setting up the hall, Ms Meyer and her helpers for the food and clean up and Mr Pacey for the photos. Thanks to Ms Bell, Mrs Michelle Dowling and the Year 10's for helping on the night.



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SISS Moto Cross

A huge congratulations to Jae Macdonald (Year 11) who attended the SISS Moto Cross Country at Taieri Mouth on Sunday 17th August.



Jae was placed 3rd out of 47 riders. What a great achievement



Remember Breakfast is available to all our students everyday.

All our secondary students have a special breakfast provided every Friday.



Over \$2 million Donated

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Darts

Rose May Poihakena-Jackson (Year 6) has been impressing everyone with her sharp aim and calm focus while playing social darts alongside adults at the Waipiata Darts Club events. Way to go Rose May!



Maniototo Area School

Primary Focus on Wool

This term, our Primary School is focusing on 'Wool'. We had an excellent shearing display where Alan Paterson demonstrated traditional blade shearing. Then Kevahn and Jay from Stringer Shearing showed modern shearing with a handpiece. Dante provided an informative commentary throughout.



Room 5 then took a trip out to Mrs Hore's farm to see shearing in action. They learnt how wool was sorted into different lines and even got a chance to help the wool classer Julia sort fleeces. Sam even took home some wool to make a bed for his guinea pig.

We were thrilled to welcome a group of talented knitters, spinners, and weavers who shared their incredible skills with our students. Room 4 had a hands-on introduction to the art of knitting and explored the full journey of wool—from carding and spinning to felting and crafting. A heartfelt thank you to our visitors for inspiring creativity and helping our students discover the joy of working with wool!



Meanwhile Year 7 & 8 students have been busy stitching seed pods from wool and planting marigolds, cosmos, calendula, and lettuce. It's a wonderful blend of creativity and sustainability—these woollen pods eliminate the need for plastic planters and can be planted directly into the soil once the seeds sprout. A big thank you to Philippa for her sewing expertise and helping bring this project to life!



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Maniototo Zone Primary School Cross Country Results 2025

(MAS, St Johns & Strath Taieri Schools)

Year 1

Boys: Fergus Lynch ST, Fergus Smith St J, Ollie Kensington St J
Girls: Willow Eketone St J, Sahara Saunders ST, Thea Huddleston St J

Year 2

Boys: George Love St J, **Blake Andrews MAS, Hugo Fairweather MAS**
Girls: Greta Wilson ST, Alexis Bankshaw ST, Nika Miller St J

Year 3

Boys: Arthur Dowling St J, **Blake Sutherland MAS**, Mason Nyhof ST
Girls: Myah Hokianga ST, Stella Dykes ST, Georgia Dodds St J

Year 4

Boys: Max Stevenson ST, Arthur Wilson ST, Riley Stevenson ST
Girls: Izzy Eketone St J, Bryleigh Barroga St J, Evie Steele St J

Year 5

Boys: Tayne Larson-MacAuley ST 7:39, Digby Jones ST 7:45, Jack Jeffries St J 8:05
Girls: Juliette Dowling St J 7:27 (New record, previous record 7:43), Milly Turner ST 9:23,
Autumn Forbes MAS 9:54

Year 6

Boys: **Toby McFadyen-Beck MAS 7:16 (New record, previous record 7:17),**
George Dykes ST 7:17, Eli Barroga St J 7:21
Girls: Rosa Scott St J 8:13, Ella Turner ST 8:29, Tessa Stevenson ST 9:13

Year 7

Boys: Xavier Love St J 9:36 (New record, previous record 9:49), Edward Wilson ST 9:49,
Joshua Barroga St J 10:07
Girls: **Nikita Wilson MAS 11:10**, Kayla McAuley St J 12:13, **Florence Dowling MAS 12:14**

Year 8

Boys: Harry Dowling St J 9:50, Ethan Chisholm St J 10:33, Jae McAuley St J 10:42
Girls: **Laura Paterson MAS 10:25**, Madison Bankshaw ST 10:31, Annabelle Scott ST 11:28

**We wish all the students going to the Otago Cross Country on 5th September
the very best of luck!**

Maniototo Area School

BOT Election



Just a quick reminder that the Board of Trustees election is happening now, and voting wraps up on 10th September. It only takes a minute, and it's a great way to show you care about the school your kids grow up in.

Life's busy, but this one's worth squeezing in. Please take the time to vote.

Candidates are Katy Wade, Mat Weir, Sal Byrne & Logan Dowling

Basketball

The Year 9. 10 Junior boys basketball team are having an amazing season so far. They have made the semifinals which will be played on 8th September in Queenstown.

It's so great to have Charlie Owens and Nick Inder sharing their knowledge and experience at practices. Thank you!



8km Run

Some of our students took part in the 8km sprint race recently held in aid of the Rescue Helicopter Trust.

Laura Paterson was 2nd overall and the first female to cross the line, closely followed by Nicola Kinney who was 3rd overall.

Vanessa Kinney finished 17th. Great results overall in a strong field of runners taking part.



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Biking to school safely

Biking to school can be a great way for kids to get exercise, develop confidence and learn to share the road safely with motorists and other people on bikes. Before encouraging your child to get on their bike, there are a few things to consider:

Keep safe

Ensure your child has the right cycling skills to get to school safely on a bike. Always ride with your child if they're under 10 and then continue until you're sure they have the skills and confidence to ride in traffic.

Encourage your children to undertake cycle skills training so they are prepared to ride on the road. Talk to your local council about cycle skills training in your area.

The training includes the following skills:

- Turning and signalling skills away from traffic, then on quiet streets to improve traffic awareness.
- Recognising potential hazards and how to choose good places to ride.
- Riding in a straight line, at least one metre from parked cars, and using cycle lanes wherever possible.
- Watching for potential hazards including car doors, potholes, rubbish, grates and pedestrians.

The bike

Ensure your child's bike is the right size and fit. They must be able to:

- With hands on the handlebar, place the balls of both feet on the ground when sitting on the seat.
- Comfortably stand with two feet flat on the ground when straddling the centre bar.
- Easily grasp the hand brakes and apply enough pressure to stop the bike.

Bikes must have brakes and reflectors, and front and rear lights need to be on when it's dim or dark.

The helmet

Cycle helmets must be worn and meet an approved standard. Before your child sets off on their bike, ensure the helmet is securely fastened, in good condition and not cracked or damaged. Make sure it's the right size, with little or no wobble when fitted. To learn more, check out the Bike Wise Bike & Helmet Check pocket pamphlet: www.tinyurl.com/bikehelmetcheck



Have your child wear bright or high visibility clothing or a high-vis backpack cover and have front and rear lights for night time or low light and rain.

If an adult is cycling with young children, keep an eye out. If there's one adult, riding at the back is best. If there is more than one adult, have one at the front and one at the back.

Plan the route

Map out a safe route to school from home. Choose a way through side streets, with other kids on bikes, low traffic speeds and good visibility. Ride with your child and make sure they understand the route – have them lead to show you they know where they're going.

Sharing the road

It's important to ride with courtesy and respect for motorists and other people on bikes.

Ensure your child knows to be visible at all times, clearly show their intentions and thank other road users when they can. For example, you can show them how to let motorists or other cyclists know you're happy they've waited for you by waving, smiling, or giving them a 'thumbs up'. This will make sharing the road easier for everyone.

Try not to hold up the flow of traffic. If necessary, pull over to allow vehicles to pass.

Teach your child the road rules. Check out the Official New Zealand Code for Cyclists for more: www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/roadcode/cyclist-code/

Weather

Help your child check the weather conditions before each bike ride. If they are cycling in wet or low light conditions, ensure they wear high visibility and reflective clothing.

Carrying gear?

Don't hang anything from the handlebars – it could throw them off balance or get stuck in the wheels and cause a crash.

Keep healthy

Did you know 10% of all Kiwi children between two and 14 years-old are overweight and at greater risk of Type 2 diabetes, according to the Ministry of Health. Get your children into fun, healthy habits like cycling that last a lifetime.



2025 EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

Examinations available digitally shown in [blue](#).

Date	Session	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Scholarship
Tue 4 Nov	AM		Mathematics & Statistics	Dance	Classical Studies
	PM		Latin	Japanese Making Music Spanish	Statistics
Wed 5 Nov	AM			English	
	PM		Geography		Earth & Space Science
Thu 6 Nov	AM		English		Latin
	PM		Chinese	History	French
Fri 7 Nov	AM			Chemistry	Accounting
	PM		Accounting		Biology
WEEKEND					
Mon 10 Nov	AM	French Spanish	Lea Faka-Tonga Te Reo Māori	Calculus	Samoan
	PM	Commerce	Korean	Agricultural & Horticultural Science Chinese German	Media Studies
Tue 11 Nov	AM	English			Physics
	PM	Gagana Tokelau	Dance	Biology	Art History
Wed 12 Nov	AM	Agricultural & Horticultural Science	Chemistry	Drama	Geography
	PM	Korean	Cook Islands Māori Drama	Digital Technologies Samoan	Psychology
Thu 13 Nov	AM	Mathematics and Statistics	Art History	Statistics	Drama
	PM	History	Physics	Accounting	Agricultural & Horticultural Science
CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARY DAY (Fri 14 Nov)					
WEEKEND					
Mon 17 Nov	AM	Te Reo Māori	French	Latin Psychology Te Reo Rangatira	Chemistry
	PM	Japanese	Biology	Economics	
Tue 18 Nov	AM	Science	History	Physics	Te Reo Rangatira
	PM	Digital Technologies	Agricultural & Horticultural Science	Media Studies	
Wed 19 Nov	AM	Chinese	Te Reo Rangatira	Lea Faka-Tonga	English
	PM	Social Studies	Classical Studies	Art History	Economics
Thu 20 Nov	AM	Physics Earth & Space Science	Media Studies	Te Reo Māori	Calculus
	PM	Vagahau Niue	Education for Sustainability Samoan	Earth & Space Science	Chinese
Fri 21 Nov	AM	Reo Māori Kūki 'Āirani		Music Studies	Spanish
	PM	Geography	Music		History
WEEKEND					
Mon 24 Nov	AM	Gagana Sāmoa	Japanese	Geography	
	PM	German	Earth & Space Science		Religious Studies
Tue 25 Nov	AM	Chemistry & Biology	Home Economics	Classical Studies	Te Reo Māori
	PM	Lea Faka-Tonga	German	Home Economics	Digital Technologies
Wed 26 Nov	AM	Religious Studies	Social Studies	French	Japanese
	PM	Health Studies	Business Studies	Health	
Thu 27 Nov	AM		Economics	Korean	
	PM		Health	Business Studies	
Fri 28 Nov	AM		Digital Technologies Spanish	Cook Islands Māori Social Studies	German