

MEREMERE SCHOOL

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Term 3 Week 2

31 July 2026

SCHOOL VISION

Believe Achieve Succeed

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Success through Achievement. Achievement through Education.

MEREMERE, a great little SCHOOL

Kia ora koutou, Talofa [Tuvali], Wah gwaan [Jamaican], Maaha [Ghanan], Greetings,

Oh my gosh! I left for balmy Singapore and returned to a freezing New Zealand winter. We have just had the coldest weather in five years. Thank goodness for heat pumps!

ROLL

Our roll remains at 10 and has been stable all year. Our School Board has committed to growing this.

LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT

We are currently 80% of the school AT & ABOVE for Reading, Writing and Maths which is an excellent result at this time of year. Anne and I are both really happy with the children's learning and achievement.

BEHAVIOUR

We have had a great week teaching the children and overall, behaviour is generally settled. We are very happy with the start to the term.

ROLE MODELS

Our Role Models are Larry, Vaimoe and Angel who manage responsibilities capably and love their tasks in this capacity. If Larry or Vaimoe are absent, Kortez steps up to help out. You can be proud of every one of these pupils who do an excellent job.

LUNCH TRIAL

We are involved in a trial for the MOE. They are aiming to replace once usage cutlery i.e. wooden forks with proper cutlery. A great idea if you ask me and all the children agree.

PROPERTY

DRIVEWAY

Finally, our driveway is complete and I'm sure you will agree, it has been worth the wait.

WATER FOUNTAINS

These are not fit for purpose and have been assessed by the Schools Property manager. They will be fixed in due course. In the meantime, the children have access to cups and drinking water in the class which is the legal requirement.

WEBSITE

Simply type in Meremere School to access the school's website. I love it; already we have had positive comments from the MOE about this. We will be uploading photos of the Term 2 swimming trip any day so keep a look out for those under OUR STUDENTS/TRIPS button on the website.

ATTENDANCE

Thank you for a great start to Term 33 despite the very cold weather and congratulations to Kortez and Camero for full attendance in Term 2.

Please note that your child will be marked late if they have not arrived at school by 8.45. Ongoing lateness will trigger a referral to the Attendance Service.

MEASLES/IMPETIGO

If you suspect your child has measles they must stay at home until they are passed the contagious stage. You will need to check with your Doctor.

Impetigo is another highly contagious infection and is often called school sores. If you notice pustules popping up over your child's body they must stay home until they have completed a course of antibiotics and are cleared by a Doctor. The pustules are small, raised bumps on the skin, filled with pus usually surrounded by red and inflamed tissue.

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

We have just received new climbing rock holds, we are awaiting a new slide, and a swinging basket and two swings are on hold until we develop a new perimeter to accommodate them. Thank you Bevan for the fantastic, considered job you are doing with our grounds.

CLEANER

We have just employed a new cleaner Trista Hall who lives in the village and welcome her onto the staff. We thank Erin for her time here as cleaner and wish her well with Ella.

SINGAPORE

I am so glad I accompanied forty other Waikato Principals to Singapore. Although it was my fourth trip there, the previous three visits were stop overs on the way to Europe. I had never stayed for a week before, and never had the opportunity to visit schools. We visited five state, independent and international schools none of which were smaller than 1 000 pupils and some up to 3 000 students. They were all high rise like most of the houses. We also visited the NZ High Commissioner's Office and listened to some very well educated New Zealand diplomats talking about education in Singapore and the role NZ plays with trade.

Singapore is a very clean and safe country/state/city which with over 6 million people fits into a size smaller than Lake Taupo!

The locals aspire to have an excellent education. They are kind and considerate, are multi-cultural with Chinese, Indian and Malay ethnicities and the children are respectful and extremely well behaved. Senior classes all have 40 pupils in them. Consequently, the approach to teaching is quite different to New Zealand practice.

I loved it. It was so worthwhile visiting, nevertheless our education system also has a lot to offer.

3 WAY CONFERENCES

Thank you for returning your 3 Way Conference slips. We look forward to seeing you next week.

TRIPS

We are off to the Auckland Zoo on 14 August. I shall send home the permission slips next week. Then on the 27 August we are visiting Puni School to view their school production.

FRUIT IN SCHOOL

This started this week.

GENERAL ELECTION

The General Election is on 7 November 2026. You will have the opportunity to vote at the school in Room 1.

STORIES

ANGEL

Dear Whaea Maxine

During the holidays, I went out to my backyard to play outside with the birds and then I was hungry so I ran inside. When I came running outside again, they were gone and when I thought of how many birds there were, there were five. They were small fantails.

During the holidays on a Thursday it was my sister's birthday so my dad got some special Kai for her birthday; chocolate, chips, dip and lollies. Even though she didn't eat any lollies, I just left them on the table because she might have wanted some later. I asked her but she said no thank you. Later I left in the car with my dad and we drove home together.

I asked my dad if I could go to Ari's house and my dad said yes so I ran over to be with Ari. When I got to Ari's place there were two pups. Marcus said the black pup was Diesel and the light brown pup was Indica. I got bored so I asked Ari if we could go tramping. We decided that we would make some juice. We made orange juice. An hour later I played with the puppies again and then I had pizza.

Another night, I had a sleep over at Rowena's house. I ran inside and I said hello to everyone. I talked to Rowena in her room and she asked me are you hungry and I said sure. So she got some chips; salt chips and popcorn. Then I watched Youtube on her ipad while she braided my hair with a cute flower clip and then I did her hair. She looked so pretty. Then the popcorn was ready so we turned on the TV. We watched the Cat in the Hat until we got tired.

Love from Angel Rose

LARRY

Dear Whaea Maxine,

My cousins came to my house and played. We had so much fun when we played songs. In the morning we woke up and we got ready to go to Church. Me and my family sang a song to the Church.

Later I looked after my nana because she was really sick and I always grabbed her medicine and drink. I helped her get some other stuff like pillows and snacks. I also went to the shop to buy food and drinks. When my family got home they looked after my nana.

My family were sick. We had the flu and we got a headache. My family and I were really sick. Vaimoe and Ilaisa and my nana were so sick. I don't like sickness. My mum and nana went to the doctors because my mum and nana were so sick. I was really bad so we had to drink our medicine.

I watched movies with my nana. We watched Sonic 3. Me and my nana like the movies. We lay down on our bed and we watched the movie. And we were doing smoothies. As soon as my family got home, we talked and talked and then Ilaisa and me and Eidiban and Vaimoe went inside the room to watch our laptops.

Love from Larry

Weekly Assembly

Date: 26.06.2026	Term: 2	Week: 10
Senior Role Models	Larry & Vaimoe	
New Students		
Birthdays		
Group Points	Foxes & Cars	
Newsletter Slips	David	
Teachers Caught Being Good	Aurorah	
100% Attendance draw	Carter	
Role Models Caught Being Good	Kortez & Larry	
Sports Certificate	Larry	
Reading Certificate	Aurorah	
Writing Certificate	Carter	
Maths Certificate	Camero	
Principal Certificate	Aurorah	

Weekly Assembly

Date: 24.07.2026	Term: 3	Week: 1
Senior Role Models	Larry & Angel	
New Students		
Birthdays	Whaea Maxine	
Group Points	Bears & Foxes	
Newsletter Slips	David, Larry & Vaimoe	

Teachers Caught Being Good	Larry & Indica
100% Attendance draw	David
Role Models Caught Being Good	Angel & Carter
Sports Certificate	David
Reading Certificate	Camero
Writing Certificate	Angel
Maths Certificate	Indica
Principal Certificate	Kortez

Nga mihi nui

Maxine Stensness

Principal

PS: If you send back the slip below, it goes into a lucky draw at our Friday assembly.

✂ _____

I have received and read the newsletter.

Signed _____ Child's name _____



This **FREE** 14 session programme for parents of children aged 3-8 years will increase your confidence as a parent/caregiver. You will learn ways to:

- Build healthy parent – child relationships
- Encourage positive behaviour
- Decrease negative behaviour

PUKEKOHE

Programme 1 Thursday, 6th August 9.30am – 12pm

Programme 2 Thursday 6th August 6.00pm – 8.30pm

To register, contact Hepi to add your name to the list or jump on our website and register.

Mai Lighthouse
205 King Street, Pukekohe
Phone: (09)238 6233
Email: Parenting@mailighthouse.org.nz
Website: www.mailighthouse.org.nz



Mai Lighthouse