



14 September 2023

Term 3 Week 9

From the desk of Ms. 'O'

This is Maori Language Week. (te wiki o maori). During this week we celebrate our nation's unique cultural heritage through its reo/language.

I thought it was appropriate to share a simple maori legend that relates to the local area, Lake Whakatipu (known to us as Lake Wakatipu), and is taught to our children.

The Legend of Lake Wakatipu

There are many traditions relating to the lake. One of the most famous tells that the hollow which forms the bed of the lake was created when the people known as Te Rapuwai came upon the giant tipua (ogre) Matau as he lay there in a deep sleep. Matau had been responsible for the disappearance of many small hunting parties and had entrapped a beautiful maiden, Manata.

The father of Manata offered her in marriage to the man who could bring her safely home. Matakauri, who was in love with Manata, ventured forth, discovering that Matua slept when the northwest wind blew.

Matakauri selected a day when the wind was blowing the right way and set forth. He found manata and, using his mere, he attempted to sever the bonds which held her, but try as he would he failed. Manata began to sob bitterly, and as her tears fell on the cords, they melted away.

Matakauri carried Manata back to the village where they became man and wife. However Matakauri knew that while Matua lived no maiden was safe, so he set forth when again the northwest wind blew and set fire to the large growth of bracken that acted as a bed for the giant.

Matua was smothered in flames, the fat from his body augmenting the fire, until the blaze was so fierce that it burnt a hole more than 1000 feet deep. The snow on the surrounding hills melted and filled the hole, which is known today as Lake Wakatipu.



This is a photo of a representation of this legend that graces our school's staffroom wall.

Please feel free to come in to view it.

Kia kaha
te reo Maori

Principals Report

2023 Ski Trip Report.

25 Garston School children, 2 extra children and 21 adults (including 3 school staff) went to the Remarkables Ski Field on 21st August 2023. All travelled in private vehicles.

The EOTC experience met learning outcomes within the Garston School P.E. & Health Curriculum, Values Education and Key Competency programmes. The experience aimed to develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge as follows: physical/motor skills; courage to accept challenge by choice; perseverance and determination; understanding of and keeping rules; self-management (personal gear, comfort and safety); goal setting; self-confidence building; building social relationships.

Strategic Goal 2: To improve all students' ability to select appropriate strategies and accurately use knowledge to solve problems in all maths strands.

Strategic Goal 3 : Garston School's aim is to promote student and staff wellbeing (Hauora).

Principal discussed the outcomes to date on Goals 2 and 3 of our Strategic Plan.

Documentation and Self Review

- The following policies have come up for review until the end of Term Three as part of our School Docs triennial cycle of review.
- Inclusive Education; Maori Educational Success; Learning Support.

Property/Asset Protection

- The fire alarm system covering our two buildings will be connected to the Fire Service. If the alarm is activated a signal goes to a monitoring company and then to FENZ who will turn out at predetermined fire stations. An alarm service person is also notified to attend to reset the system. All costs of connection and servicing are met by the MOE.
- LED lighting and RCD power outlets have been fitted throughout the school.
- Acoustic ceiling panels fitted in Room 3.
- I.T. switchgear and wi-fi units have been upgraded throughout the school.

Legal Compliance

- The school roll at the date of the meeting was 25 and made up of 10 (Year 0-3) and 15 (Year 4-8) students.

Events/Special Topics

- Whole-school trip to Nokomai Station was discussed.

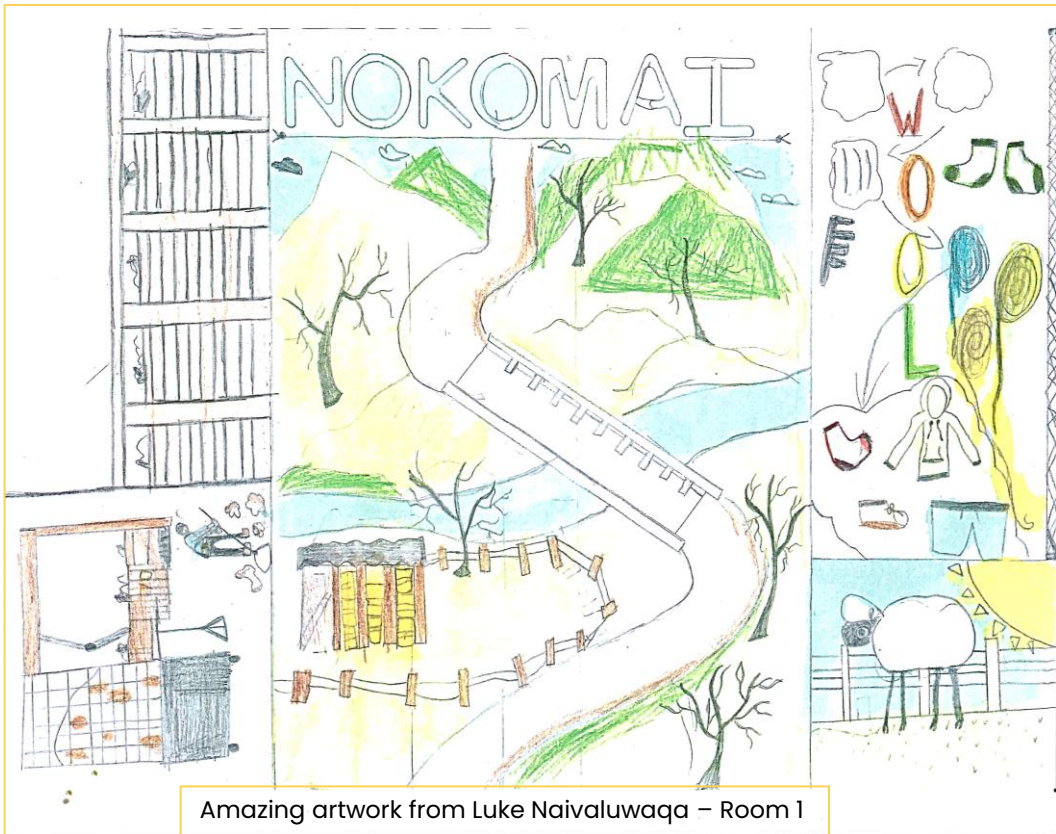
Beautiful Scenery

When you travel to Nokomai Station there are lots of towering mountains and willow trees. It's very pretty countryside and quite a long drive. It seems quite empty until you see a group of buildings.

It was very interesting to find out what you can make out of wool. We also learnt about the history of Clan Cameron. After lunch Mabel's dad demonstrated how he uses his dog whistles which was really cool since he has seven dogs and 6-7 whistles for each dog. When we went into the shearing shed it was great seeing how they shear the sheep.

By Tehila Naivaluwaqa – Room 1.





Can't pull the wool over these guys.
Fun at the Nokomai wool shed



Garston School Newsletter



Massive thanks to Liv Shaw and James and Ann Hore for 'shearing' their time at the woolshed. Everybody who participated in the day absolutely loved the activities and definitely learnt a great deal about wool farming.

We greatly appreciate the effort that our hosts made, taking time out of their already busy lives, to ensure that their visitors got the most benefit out of the day.

Dates for your Diary



Thursday, 21st September

Home & School Meeting - 7pm - At the Kingston Flyer Café & Bar



Friday, 22nd September

Last day of term



Monday, 9th October

Start of Term 4.



Found yesterday outside the school front fence. It's in the staffroom if it's yours.

- I don't like Russian dolls, they're so full of themselves.
- Most people are shocked when they find out how bad I am as an electrician.
- I was going to procrastinate yesterday but decided to do it tomorrow.
- The Ferris wheel and the merry-go-round were invented in the same time period, but the inventors never met, because they travelled in different circles.
- Who invented King Arthur's round table? Sir Cumference.

Year 7/8 Technology at Northern Southland College

22nd September.

Please advise the principal early in the morning if your child will not be going on any of the days on 027 758 1520.

This is so a message can be relayed to N.S.C. and also our transport providers who pick up the children around midday to bring them back to Garston School.

Don't miss the bus!

Download Skool Loop

Simple free download:
In Google Play & App Store
search '**Skool Loop**' &
choose our school once installed.