



8th June 2023

Term 2 Week 7

From the desk of Ms 'O'

Manawatia a Matariki

Celebrating Matariki together as a nation provides an opportunity for Maori language, culture, and history to be more accessible to New Zealanders both here and overseas. It also supports us to reflect the value we place in our cultural heritage and helps develop a better sense of our national identity.



At Garston School, the children will learn about the Matariki star which is the sign of a new year.

As a mum to all the stars in the star cluster, Matariki sits in the middle guiding children across the sky every night.

This year the national Matariki celebration will be during the school holidays on the 14th July.

Traditional teachings tell that Matariki and Rehua gave birth to a cluster of stars. (see the attached illustration). Both Matariki and Rehua are believed to have the power to heal. Matariki is connected to the well-being of people and the environment as well.



Below is an incantation that celebrates the arrival of the Maori New Year.

The Family of Light

Shine upon us morning stars
Puanga and Matariki
The New Year rises
We call upon your vitality and farewell the departed
Guide the people
United as one



Here's a small section of the Matariki Dance Challenge routine which Room 1 are learning. We are challenging ourselves by entering a national dance competition and Josh Dunn has kindly agreed to make a professional video which we can send in July to celebrate Matariki. The juniors are also learning a smaller section to join in with.

We'd like to costume the routine with black pants/skirts/tights and red and white tops. We are hoping to make some Maori style headbands with feathers too. If any mums have sewing skills and would like to help, that would be super.

Please do get in touch if you'd like to be part of the fun. We are really proud of our tamariki already! They are a musical and creative little bunch.

To the following for supporting Fern Energy 'Fuels for Schools' incentive:



- Dangerous Brothers Estate.
- Eyre Creek Station.
- Glen Nevis Station.
- Hume Livestock Services.
- Kingston Station Ltd.
- T.W. & J N McNamee

Some funnies to warm you up on these cold mornings

- I went to a seafood disco last week, but ended up pulling a mussel.
- The first time I got a universal remote control, I thought to myself, 'This changes everything.'
- 'I have a split personality,' said Tom, being Frank.
- Will glass coffins be a success? Remains to be seen.
- My friend's bakery burned down last night. Now his business is toast.
- A book fell on my head the other day. I only have my shelf to blame though.
- Just got fired from my job as a set designer. I left without making a scene.
- I just got kicked out of a secret cooking society. I spilled the beans.



Dates for your Diary



Date: 8th June

BOT meeting at 7pm. All welcome.



Date: 12th June.

School-wide rugby session



Date: 19th June.

School-wide rugby session



Date: 26th June.

School-wide rugby session



Date: 30th June.

Last day of Term 2.

School reports go home.

Winter fun on the spooners

