



Whakamaru School

30 January 2013

★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★

This week we feature our fantastic teachers!



Room 1 - Mrs Mel Pasco
Year 6 - 8



Room 2 - Mrs Kareena Sneddon
Year 4 - 5



Room 3 - Ms Jenny Collins
Year 2 - 3



Room 5 - Ms Keriana Whatarau
Year 1



Whakamaru School Vision: At Whakamaru School we develop skills and attitudes for life-long learning

Kaahu Rd, RD1, Mangakino · Phone (07) 8828872 · 0277587401
principal@whakamaru.school.nz – www.whakamaru.school.nz

Tēnā Koutou ngā whānau o Te Kura o Whakamaru
Greetings to the Whakamaru School Community

Here we are at the beginning of a new school year - we all hope you had a great holiday or at least time with your children.

It's great to see the students back again - we look forward to Day 1 when we can see how they've changed over the holidays and how excited they are to be back at school.

Yesterday at the beginning of the school year we had all the staff introduce themselves by giving their mihi to the students. We would like to share these with you so you know the background of our staff also.

PRINCIPAL
Mrs Jill McArthur

Tenā koutou, tenā koutou, tenā koutou katoa
Ko Taranaki te māunga
Ko Kapuni te awa
Ko Ganges te waka
Ko Ngati pakeha te iwi
Ko Charlie Dowdle toku pāpā
Ko Verna Dowdle toku māmā
Ko Dowdle/McArthur toku whānau
Ko Jill ahau
Nō Reira Tēnā koutou, Tēnā koutou, Tēnā tātou katoa.

I was born in Waihi but grew up in Auckland. I am the youngest in my family with 3 older brothers. All my family - my Mum, Dad, and all my brothers were/are teachers so I didn't have much chance to get away from it!

I have 2 sons - Josh who is 23, and Alex who is 20. They both live in Wellington. Laurie, my husband, works between Rotorua and Hamilton.

I have a puppy, Olly; a cat, Spud; and 5 cattle.

I have been Principal at Whakamaru for nearly 4 years now and, although it may be a long way to travel from Karapiro, I love the children as they are friendly, open, country kids.

ROOM 1 TEACHER
Mrs Mel Pasco

Tenā koutou, tenā koutou, tenā koutou katoa
Ko Pirongia te māunga

Whakamaru School Vision: At Whakamaru School we develop skills and attitudes for life-long learning

Kaahu Rd, RD1, Mangakino · Phone (07) 8828872 · 0277587401
principal@whakamaru.school.nz – www.whakamaru.school.nz

Ko Waikato te awa
Ko War Spirit te waka
Ko Ngati pakeha te iwi
Ko Mike toku pāpā
Ko Brenda toku māmā
Ko Berger, Pasco toku whānau
Ko Melanie ahau
Nō Reira Tēnā koutou, Tēnā koutou, Tēnā tātou katoa.

I live up the road at Tihoi with my husband, Gee, our cat (Ollie) and our corgi (Monty). I moved from Hamilton last April. My parents and sister live in Cambridge and I grew up in Morrinsville, so I'm a Waikato girl through and through. My hobbies include food, cooking and baking.

ROOM 2 TEACHER
Mrs Kareena Sneddon

Tenā koutou, tenā koutou, tenā koutou katoa
Ko Te Aroha te māunga
Ko Piako te awa
Ko Endeavour te waka
Ko Ngati pakeha te iwi
Ko Phil toku pāpā
Ko Marilyn toku māmā
Ko Coombe/Sneddon toku whānau
Ko Kareena ahau
Nō Reira Tēnā koutou, Tēnā koutou, Tēnā tātou katoa.

I am the youngest of 6 children and I have 2 brothers and 3 sisters. I grew up in Te Aroha and went to a small country school very similar to Whakamaru. I went to Hamilton Girls' High School where I was a boarder at Sonninghill Hostel. I love sports and I played waterpolo, netball, basketball and cricket throughout my school years. I have 3 dogs, 2 cats, 1 turtle and numerous jersey cows as my husband and I love to show them. My husband is a manager on a dairy farm and I don't mind getting my hands dirty on the farm to help out. I wanted to be a teacher from a very young age and chose primary teaching because I love the variety of topics we get to teach.

Whakamaru School Vision: At Whakamaru School we develop skills and attitudes for life-long learning

**Kaahu Rd, RD1, Mangakino · Phone (07) 8828872 · 0277587401
principal@whakamaru.school.nz – www.whakamaru.school.nz**

ROOM 3 TEACHER

Ms Jenny Collins

Tenā koutou, tenā koutou, tenā koutou katoa
Ko Mauoa te māunga
Ko Kaituna te awa
Ko Endeavour te waka
Ko Ngati pakeha te iwi
Ko Douglas Collins toku pāpā
Ko Helen Collins toku māmā
Ko Collins toku whānau
Ko Jenny Collins ahau
Nō Reira Tēnā koutou, Tēnā koutou, Tēnā tātou katoa.

I was born in Tauranga and am the eldest in the family with a brother and a sister. I went to Hamilton Teachers College. I taught in Tauranga, Opotoki, UK, Tirohanga, Kaikohe, Taumarunui, and Whakamaru.

I have a family of four with Tracey and Penny who are twins, Katie, and Michael.

I have four grandchildren - Leah (9), Luke (8), Ava (2), and Hayley (1).

I have two pet budgies - Syd and Louise who are named after places in the U.K.

My interests are music, playing the piano, and travelling as I like new places and people.

The reason I went teaching is it was a childhood ambition.

ROOM 5 TEACHER

Ms Keriana Whatarau

Tenā koutou, tenā koutou, tenā koutou katoa
Ko Kahuranaki te māunga
Ko Tukituki, ko Ngaruroro, ko Tutae-kuri nga awa
Ko Takitimu te waka
Ko Ngaati Kahungunu te iwi
Ko Eri toku pāpā
Ko Joan toku māmā
Ko Whatarau toku whānau
Ko Keriana ahau
Nō Reira Tēnā koutou, Tēnā koutou, Tēnā tātou katoa.

Whakamaru School Vision: At Whakamaru School we develop skills and attitudes for life-long learning

***Kaahu Rd, RD1, Mangakino · Phone (07) 8828872 · 0277587401
principal@whakamaru.school.nz – www.whakamaru.school.nz***

I was born in Pukekohe. I have an older brother and a younger sister. I grew up in Rotorua and went to Hamilton to do my teacher training. I have taught in Rotorua, Kawerau, Waipukurau, Murupara and finally in Whakamaru. I have lived and taught in Whakamaru for 25 years this coming May. My partner and I have four cats, two donkeys and a lot of chickens.

Teaching is a profession that runs in my family. My grandfather was a Principal, my mum and dad were teachers, and my brother and his wife are both teachers so it was natural for me to follow in their footsteps. Their support and guidance in my chosen field has been invaluable.

We also have other valuable members of our staff:-

Mrs Elva Lorenz - Office Manager.

Mrs Christine Taylor - Teacher Aide.

Mrs Claire Hamilton - Teacher Aide.

Mr Roly Schwass - our Caretaker.

Ms Malia Iele - our Cleaner

WELCOME

We warmly welcome all the new children to our school:-

Destiny, Stevie-Ray, and Gary Tantrum from Mangakino.

Krystal Batten from Leamington School in Cambridge who is moving to the village.

Brooke and Cheyanne Hirst who have moved into the area and live opposite the Christian Camp.

Ratahi Lay from Mangakino.

SCHOOL PICNIC - FRIDAY 8 FEBRUARY

We are going to walk over the dam to the Whakamaru Domain to have a picnic lunch and a swim.

You are all warmly invited to come along and share the day with us. If you don't to walk then feel free to meet us there.

STATIONERY

Stationery lists went home with children yesterday - we have all the stationery here at school, it might be easier for you to purchase all in one place.

Whakamaru School Vision: At Whakamaru School we develop skills and attitudes for life-long learning

Kaahu Rd, RD1, Mangakino · Phone (07) 8828872 · 0277587401
principal@whakamaru.school.nz – www.whakamaru.school.nz

ROOM 1 PARENTS

All Room 1 students will be taking part in the William Pike Challenge this year. This involves 8 different learning experiences outside the classroom - e.g. tramping, kayaking, high ropes, etc.

We are lucky enough to have William Pike come to talk to us and give more detail of these challenges on February 14. All parents are invited to attend and we will send home more detail later.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES/CONTACTS

We will be updating our records soon but in the meantime if you have changed contact details then please let us know. We have had instances of sick and upset children where we haven't been able to make contact with caregivers/parents.

FAREWELL

We say a farewell to the Osborne and Mienie families who have left the area to farm near Wairakei. Marais Osborne has been a valuable Board of Trustees member who will soon be leaving his role. We thank him for his contributions. Frances Osborne has been a huge help around the school including planting up the gardens along the front of the classrooms. She has also been on the PTA.

We also farewell Isabelle Noble who has left us to go to St Peter's School in Cambridge. She has given a lot to the school - helping out with lunches, etc - and we are sad to see her go.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

These happen every 3 years and this is the year. Think about whether you would like to be a Board of Trustees member and contribute more to the life of our school. Elections will be held in May.

*WELCOME TO THE START OF A NEW YEAR - WE LOOK FORWARD TO A
GREAT YEAR TOGETHER!*

***Whakamaru School Vision: At Whakamaru School we develop skills and
attitudes for life-long learning***

**Kaahu Rd, RD1, Mangakino · Phone (07) 8828872 · 0277587401
principal@whakamaru.school.nz – www.whakamaru.school.nz**
