

Board News

For the Term 4, 2024 Period

Tēnā koutou katoa,

It has been another amazing year. Here's a round-up.

End of Year Achievement 2024

DATA

Each year the Board receives a number of achievement presentations from the Senior Leadership Team. We value our time with this highly capable team; having them with us, gives us a good overview of where our funds need to be directed in terms of teaching and learning.

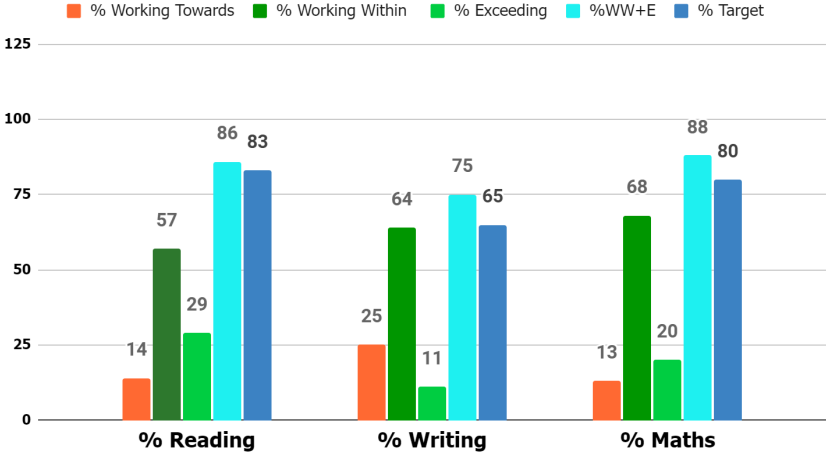
The end-of-year achievement reports were outstanding. We were particularly pleased with the pilot Science assessment that showed MNS cohorts well above the national average, and especially our Maori and Pacific students. The analysis was precise and informative.

Well considered interventions are in place to cater for children who have neurodiverse needs. Children from Pacific Nations and Tamariki o Māori are making good progress within their levels, our children contribute in huge ways to the school via leadership, music, kapa haka, we all understand that learning comes in different phases and stages and so children may need extra academic support going forward. Designated teacher aides, targeted BSLA days, carefully chosen resources, and parent engagement will all contribute to further progress for all our cohorts.

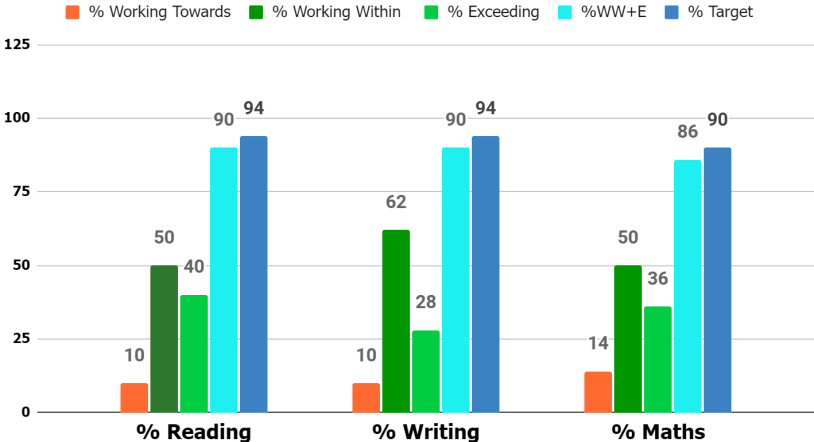
Whilst we receive information about achievement at all year levels, particular attention is paid to three cohorts: Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6. This is the expectation of the current curriculum but of course with the new curriculum, this will change to a yearly benchmark. We were so pleased that our MNS Year 6 targets were exceeded in Reading, Writing and Maths, which is an indication of how well prepared our graduates are to move on to Intermediate. The Y4 cohort were oh so close to a set of aspirational targets. Nonetheless each child in

Year 4 made excellent progress in their learning. The Y2s exceeded targets in Reading and Writing, and are 'working towards' in Maths. See graphs below.

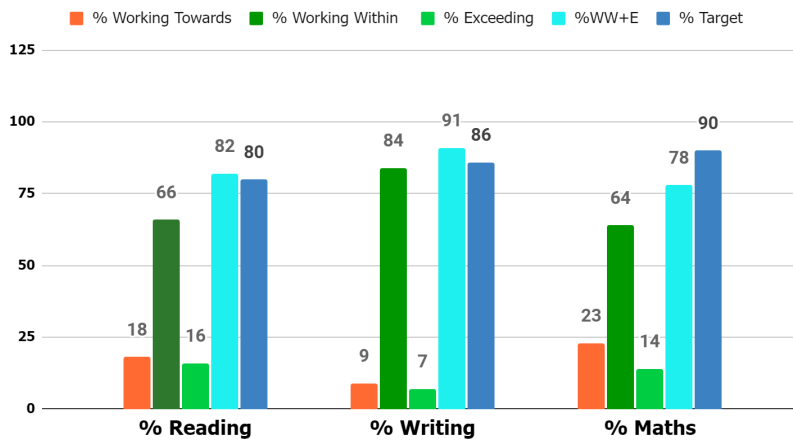
Year 6 EOY OTJs % (n=56)



Year 4 EOY OTJs % (n=58)



Year 2 EOY OTJs % (n=44)



This information shows our board and senior leadership team where they need to focus this year. There will be a focus on the new maths curriculum and the program Maths No Problem. We encourage parents to read any information sent out by the school and learn how to support their tamariki at home. I understand that there will be a parent information sharing evening in Term 2.

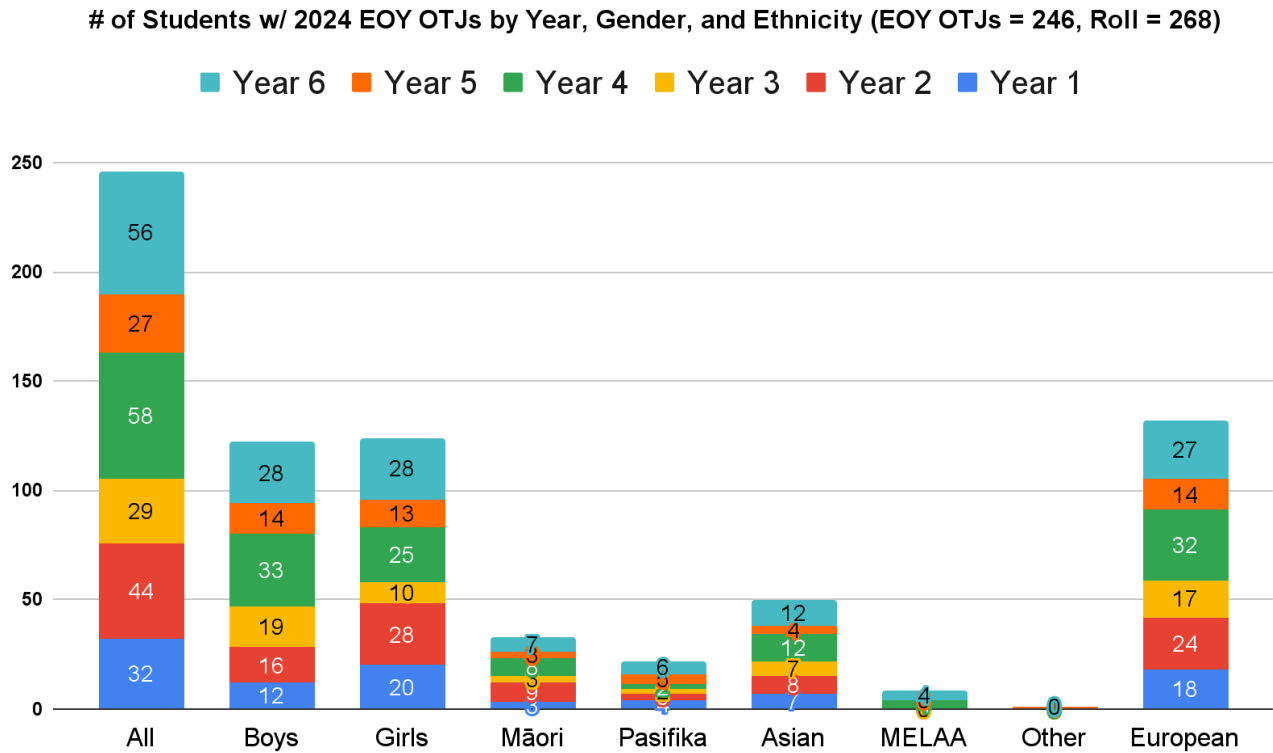
Student Hauora-Well Being

One of the areas that the board focuses on is the hauora of our students. The staff collect data formally - annually. This is presented to us. Our strong focus on PB4L and cultural responsiveness has created a positive and inclusive learning environment, as evidenced by our student well-being data. Student voice (their ability to articulate their feelings, thoughts, opinions) is a big part of this data. Overall, our students tell us they feel safe, happy, and valued at MNS, and they see their culture reflected in their learning. They feel supported to solve problems at school. They respond well to restorative practices including the apology process. We have a proactive approach to negative behaviours and see it as a symptom of deeper underlying feelings, therefore, our programs involve a lot of discussion individually and circle time [Circle Time](#) in a collective sense.

English Language Learners.

As we head into 2025, we are aware of the very international population of our school. Lucky us! It's because we have a growing population of English Language Learners, including learners from Europe that our staff thinks it's important to invest in resourcing and professional

development. Two of our staff have already participated in significant learning in this area. The graph below outlines gender and ethnicities as at the end of 2024.



Key: MELAA (Middle Eastern and Latin American). Our European population is made largely of NZ Europeans but increasingly children from a wide variety of European Countries.

TWILIGHT GALA

We extend our immense gratitude to the MNS Events Crew for this amazing community event. They raised \$20k for MNS and every dollar helps enrich the school – whether through sports equipment, professional development for the Kaiako, or keeping the school clean. Thank you to every community member who came along, or helped out. Make sure you look out for what's happening in 2025 to support our school fundraising.

ATTENDANCE

We are now required to focus on attendance. You will have noticed an attendance report that came with your child's progress report at the end of the year. In addition, you can now check

attendance on the new school app Edge.

There is a correlation between attendance and achievement. We encourage whānau to ensure their kids attend and are on time, when they are well. Lateness can discombobulate the day and start kids on a back foot. The first morning sessions set up the day and help the kids make sense of what they are about to learn. Children who have high attendance may also have a stronger sense of belonging and security at school, which may support better learning. Please contact the school if you have any issues with transport, or need any other support to get your kids to school.

PROPERTY

The school continues to be upgraded. We are pleased that work has not halted and our tamariki are able to learn in modern healthy buildings. The board appreciates your patience and tolerance with all the work happening. We understand it is a disruption, but it is vital long term mahi for the community.

BUDGET

Our budget is tight, mainly due to increasing utilities costs and the cost of staffing to ensure the needs of all our children are met. We appreciate all the school donations, pool payments and support for the fundraisers. You can read about how our school funding is allocated here [Managing our Funding - Miramar North School](#)

Kaiako

The board would like to acknowledge Louise Seaton who has been appointed as Deputy Principal and Kaiako for Room 7. Louise comes with a wealth of experience and has already slotted into the MNS community when she covered Room 1 last year.

Equally we would like to congratulate Amanda on the birth of a healthy baby boy.

The whole team at MNS is working incredibly well together and we as a board appreciate the dedication that each staff member has to our children's learning and wellbeing.

AI

MNS board is currently considering AI policy. There are many considerations, including online safety and security, validity of information, usefulness for learning, and global

warming impacts. Guidelines are being developed for which AI platforms may be used in class.

Board Farewell

The board would like to acknowledge Robyn Moriarty for her time on the MNS school board. Robyn was a strong voice across the board but particularly for health and safety, we will miss her contributions.

Ka kite ano
Cherida Fraser