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Newsletter

Number 31

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<u>Thanks</u>

... to parents who have supported our home gardeners.

<u>People of the week</u>

... the seven amazing year 8's who were nominated (against tough competition) this week for the Citizenship Cup.

- ... those children who represented their class in this week's spelling bee.
- ... those children representing us at next week's Year 4-6 Interschool
- Athletics Competition.

... Cobain Jones & Levi Henwood .. Players of the Day last week for our junior school basketball team. Well done!

<u>Term Calendar</u>

- 1 December Home Garden judging / Schools BMX Challenge
- 3 December Rooms 1, 2 & 3 trip to Finlayson farm
- 4 December Parent Helpers morning tea / Kapa Haka performance
- 5 December Year 4-6 Interschool Athletics
- 6 December School Team Athletics Day
- 7 December School Council Disco
- 10 December School Prize Giving (underway 6:30 pm)
- 11 December Reports issued
- 14 December Final day of the school year (school finishes 3:00 pm)

<u>Message to parents of Home Gardeners</u>

Please note that, where consents have not been returned, gardens will not be visited. A reminder also that you do not need to be at home when judges call tomorrow. Just make sure your garden is well signposted & that any dogs are tied up (judges will not enter a property where dogs are loose). Balloons at your gatepost can be super helpful for judges.

School Prizegiving - Monday 10 December

... getting underway at 6:30pm in the school hall. According to custom we will have a little present for each student ... as well as for pre-schoolers. Attendance on this night is optional for 5 year olds (but all other children are asked to be present please). The evening usually concludes about 8.30pm with a shared supper. Families are asked to bring two plates for supper please.

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Reminders from previous weeks ... visit newsletter archives on our website

... After School Swimming Lessons ... Guava moth traps ... ICAS practice papers ... School BMX Challenge

... Dental forms ... School readers to be returned to school

Parent Helpers' Morning Tea

Parents who have assisted the school in any way whatsoever this year are invited to a Parent Helpers' Morning Tea in the school hall starting

10:30 am Tuesday 4 December.

This is our chance to say thank you for the contributions you have made to the school over 2018. So .. whether you have helped in classrooms, the library, camps, day tríps,.. whatever .. please join us if you can.

Kapa Haka Performance

You are warmly invited to our end of year kapa haka performance, to take place 2:30 pm Tuesday 4 December in our school hall. This is an opportunity to see children performing in their brand new kapa haka uniforms, and to celebrate some of what they have learnt this year. We will also acknowledge some special achievements over 2018. See you there.

School Team Athletics Day - Thursday 6 December

You might like to drop by Thursday 6 December to share our Team Athletics Day with us. As in earlier years, the day will start with a rotation through various field and novelty events and culminate in competitive and social track events, and a brief award ceremony at the end of the day. Gets underway at 9:20, lunch 12:20 to 1:00, prizegiving 2:40 (approx.) Please ensure children have their water bottle (named), sunhats, sunblock, suitable (sun safe) clothing and suitable footwear. Children are encouraged to dress in their house colours (creativity encouraged).

Thank you to **Meganlicious Cakes** and **Protectus** who are sponsoring this year's event.

School Council Disco

Friday 7 December ... Lunchtime for the Junior School (Years 1-3) - theme .. dress as a Disney character. Years 4-8 - 7:00 to 9:30pm for the rest of the school - no theme for the senior disco Years 4 to 8 are asked to please bring a plate for supper and a gold coin donation.

Upcoming Year 7 and 8 Events

... Year 7 Sailing Day ... 13 December ... consents issues this week ... for return Monday please ... Year 8 End of Year Day ... 13 December ... consents issued this week ... for return Monday please Both events combine bonding with a celebration of a great year. Thank you so much in advance to those parents able to help with transport and supervision. There is a cost, but please let us know how we can make this easier (happy to arrange time payment or deferment). Any questions in the run, up to Mrs Donaldson please.

DVDs of School production

... will be sent out next week. Thanks to those who placed orders.

2019 School Stationery

As for 2018, stationery will need to be ordered online via the OfficeMax website - www.myschool.co.nz

The class stationery lists will be uploaded by the time school closes & confirmation of your child's 2019 classroom will be confirmed by then too. On the Officemax website search for Matarau School and then your child's class. Orders can be placed across the holidays for delivery before school starts. A brochure will be sent home shortly explaining the process.

If you do not have internet access please contact Helen for a printed list.



<u> Art Scholarship – Years 4 to 8</u>

Over the course of this week, Jack Hudson and Jacob Pivac have been diligently working on a virtual tour of this year's Art Exhibition. We are setting up a private Youtube site for viewing and will send you the link on Monday. We hope that as many of you as possible will take this

opportunity to view the exhibition and celebrate the work these children have put in. *Children are interviewed (voice only) and images are group and distant images, no surnames etc.*

Children will be asked to have their exhibits removed by Wednesday 5 December please. A big thanks to the parent support team. You should be very proud of what your children have achieved.

Year 7 and 8 tech programme

... will continue to the final day of term 14.12 (full day) ... please ensure children come prepared. Thankyou.

Digital Devices 2019 - year 5 and up (NOT REQUIRED AT YEAR 4 IN 2019)

Four years ago we introduced an option for parents of paying a full school contribution (which we acknowledge is voluntary), or reduced contribution, if they chose to purchase an ipad or equivalent for their child. Our goals were to reduce demand on our existing stock of devices, and to allow parents to make the choice on whether or not they wanted their child to have their own (take home) device. This system seems to have worked well, and we would like to put the same option to parents next year. Those who purchased their own devices last year will continue to be levied the lower rate for as long as their child brings their own device to school (remember this does not preclude them, also, using school devices). We also advised that we would commit to providing the most cost effective route for parents who opt for purchasing. In order to save you money longer term we suggest that, if your child is heading for KHS, you might like to consider chromebooks, if WGHS or WBHS then a device of your choice. To keep your costs as low as possible, whatever your choice, we will make it work at our end.

If your child already has an ipad that you would like them to bring to school, you are more than welcome to do so. We are however now preferring laptops and chromebooks, as these fill our device needs better than an ipad. We will continue to ensure that time on devices is not overdone, there will always be plenty of time for learning and interacting in a variety of ways.

NB parents should feel under no pressure to purchase devices for their children ... this is your call ... we will do our best to provide as many shared (non take home devices) as we can.

Year 8 Leaving Books

A reminder ... books are due at school by Monday 3 December. Thank you so much parents for your support here.

Lost Property

Please drop by to check the lost property bin sometime over the next couple of weeks. Items unclaimed by term's end will be donated to charities.

Finally

End of year can be a very busy time. Please let us know if we can help in any way to lighten loads, clarify matters, answer questions, or help with decisions. Don't forget to keep an eye out for the link to the virtual tour of our art exhibition, and thank you again Jack and Jacob for your diligent efforts in putting this virtual tour together.

Kind Regards Nga mihi nui

Kevin Trewhella PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your children, please support them



Dave Neumann Limited Effluent Spreading

Fundraising Raffle Tickets

Thanks to the families who have returned raffle ticket butts & money. If you would like another book please contact the office. Proceeds of the sale of these tickets goes to the Library to promote reading, or if you have a child in year 6 or 7 proceeds will go directly against the cost of their 2019 camp.

Please also remember to send in a non-perishable item (or 2) which can go in a hamper which will help lucky winners celebrate the end of the year.

School Lunches

Please note there will be no Wednesday or Friday lunches on the last week of term – Wednesday 12th or Friday 14th December.

