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Newsletter

Number 26

19 October 2018

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Thanks

... to those who attended (and supported) this year's Calf Club Day, and to our Calf Club Sponsors Kamo Vets and Sumpter Baughen

... to those who have completed our Charter Consultation Survey ... still open for responses, and so further input is warmly invited.

... for your overwhelming support of last term's "Happily N'ever After" school production.

People of the week

... Every exhibitor for the outstanding quality of 2018 exhibits, and to those who brought along a lamb or pet this week.

... Dads, grandads and uncles who helped out with the baking and icing of cakes for this week's cake auction. Funds raised will go directly towards purchase of playground and interactive learning equipment. Over \$1,000 raised!

Unity Virtue

Please find attached to this newsletter material in support of our term 4 Unity Virtue. So, please get involved, chat through this with your children at home, revisit, and advise us of things worth sharing.

Term Calendar ... More to follow as dates come to hand!

- 22 October Labour Day Holiday
- 23 October Call for confirmation of interest in the Art Scholarship
- 29 October October meeting of the Board of Trustees
- 6 November Zone Athletics at Poroti School
- 12 November Camp Meeting for parents of year 3 & 4 children
- 19 November Due date for portfolios for the Art Scholarships (3:00 pm)
- 21 -23 Nov Year 3 and 4 Camp at Marsden Bay
- 26 November School Spelling Bees some time this week
- 4 December Parent Helpers thank you morning tea.
- 5 December School Team Athletics Day
- 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)

Sunhats

A reminder that sunhats are compulsory in the final term of the year and so please check that your child has their regulation navy blue Matarau School sunhat as they head to school each day. You can buy a new one for \$9 or there is a limited supply of second hand ones for \$3 each, from the office.

Hayden Martin Electrical

Tel - 027 645 8923

Email -
admin@hmeelectrical.com



366 Kamo Road
Kamo
Tel : 09 435 1924

Reminders from last term ... visit newsletter archives on our website

... Arrival times at school ... Missing ... Basketball

THANKFULNESS VIRTUE

... examples of last term's thankfulness virtue will be in next weeks newsletter.

Pathways for year 6 students entering our year 7 and 8 programme next year

While all Year 7 and 8 programmes contain elements of Cambridge, we are keen to place students in pathways which best align with their current and future potential. In short, because the Cambridge Programme can be quite challenging, we want to get initial placements right (although changes down the track are sometimes made).

Accordingly, Year 7 intending students will undergo testing in weeks 3 and 4 of this term to assist us in determining their optimal Cambridge pathway. If we have been advised that a year 6 student will not be with us in 2019, they will not undergo this testing, unless a parent specifically advises us that they would like them to sit these assessments (by the end of next week please).

Mrs Donaldson will co-ordinate the placement process and, as part of this process, will also meet with previous teachers, and peruse the achievement (and other) data we have in our system. Parents are also invited to contribute to pathway decisions.

Careful placement will help ensure that our year 8 students are very well prepared for year 9 - and hopefully 12 months ahead of where they would be on entry to secondary school had they not done this programme. The pathways enable us to accommodate the aptitudes, interests, learning styles, extra-mural commitments etc of each child.

Just to recap, the primary pathways are as follows

- .. Full Cambridge Maths and English
- ... Full Cambridge Maths, hybrid English
- ... Full Cambridge English, hybrid Maths
- ... Hybrid Maths and English
- ... Alternatives matched to preferred intelligence / learning style

We will have three year 7 and 8 classes next year, and have not advertised places for out of zone students at this level to keep class numbers as low as possible.

Input to year 7 placement decisions

Pathway decisions will be made some time in the week beginning 12 November. Parents of year 6 students who would like to have input into these decisions are invited to make an appointment with Mrs Donaldson. We anticipate these discussions will take around 20 minutes per child. So, if you would like the opportunity to have input into placement decisions please email Mrs Donaldson on ... kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz preferably by 2 November please.

Proposed Changes to Year 7 and 8 Camps

Camps are only part of a good outdoor education programme, but they are an important part. Recent growth in our senior school means that we have too many students for one Auckland camp, and so we need to re-think provision in this area. From 2019, we are proposing that we "bookend" the senior school experience with an Auckland camp for year 7's in term 1, and a water based camp for year 8's (swimming, surfing, snorkelling, skiing etc) in term 4. The year 7 camp will be about a positive start to Cambridge, bonding and team building, and the year 8 camp would provide a time to come together, to reflect, to re-bond, to celebrate, and to cement some enduring connections.

We do realise that if we implement this proposal in 2019, that current year 7's will have quite a period between their last and next camp and so, as a one off, we are planning an additional overnight experience in Term 1 for next year's year 8's (possibly paddle boarding at the Poor Knight Islands).

While we have run this proposal across a number of parents and have had a positive response, we are keen to provide an opportunity for other interested parents to meet with us to share their thoughts, and ask any questions. So, if you have children currently in, or soon to enter, our senior school, you are invited to

meet with Kevin and Katie in Kevin's office 3:15 pm Friday 26 October. We are excited to take our senior outdoor education programme to the next level, but we need the assurance that we have you on board as well. If the above time does not suit, Kevin and Katie are more than available by appointment, or on a drop by basis for a briefer chat.

Old Magazines

Room 14 would like magazines for an Art unit they will be doing this term. All donations accepted. Thanks

Term Headlice Checks

Are scheduled for next week (Tuesday from 9:00 am). Please give Helen a call or leave a message on the school answerphone if you are available to help.

School Cups

2018 prize giving is coming fast. If you have school cups at home please get these back to school at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

Non-attendance

If your child is sick (or absent from school for other reasons) please take a moment to leave a message on our school answer phone (by 9:30 am at the latest) or email us on admin@matarau.school.nz Failure to advise us of an absence means that we have to spend time tracking children, time which could be better serving you in other ways.

Home Gardens

Welcome back to the new term. By now your seedlings should be well underway. Don't panic if you have had a few mishaps. As the weather warms up, the seeds will germinate much faster and you still have time to replant if need be.

A few tips for planting out...

Remember to 'harden' your seedlings off before planting out into the garden. This involves taking yours seedlings outside to a shelter spot during the day, then bringing them back inside at night. Gradually build up so that they are then out at night. This process should take approximately a week. .

When transplanting out (or planting into bigger containers), water with a something like a seed weed tonic afterwards. Some gardeners like to soak the pots in a bucket of this tonic before planting out, and some with water afterwards. Both methods work well. This helps with transplant shock.

Remember to put your stakes in early for plants like tomatoes and beans. This avoids the roots being damaged later on.

If you are running short on space - look at ways to grow things vertically. Cucumbers and pumpkins can grow upwards on frames. Lots of plants can also be grown in buckets and grow bags.

Please upload photo's or share & receive gardening tips on our facebook page if you can...

www.facebook.com/matarauschoolhomegardens

Year 3 & 4 Camp

There will be a camp meeting for parents held in Week 4 of Term 4, specific date to be advised. Any queries in the lead-up to camp to your child's teacher please.

Out of Zone Applications

The due date for receipt of applications was 18 October. The outcome of the ballot will be advised by the end of next week. Any questions please just drop by or phone Helen.

<p><u>Compost Fundraiser</u> Don't forget to get a load of Fonterra compost from down Jordan Valley Road next Saturday 27th (money must be direct credited to school bank account prior to 3pm Friday afternoon or cash taken to the Fonterra yard & given to the School BoT rep). Only \$40 per load (4 x 6 trailer). Collect a voucher from the office to present on collection. This is good quality compost made from whey & sawdust.</p>

Consultation on School Strategic Goals

Last term parents received an invitation by email and newsletter to comment (and rank) the goals currently in our charter, goals which were the result of previous consultation. You have the opportunity to suggest things you would like included, or removed, from these goals. Even the ranking of these goals is useful in indicating where you think our relative priorities should lie. The survey closes on Friday 26 October and so there is still time to contribute via this link ... <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X5H5HHV>

Alternatively ...

If you would like to discuss the survey face to face with Kevin or Toni (Board and whanau rep) please contact Kevin at school or Toni on 435 1041 or 021 1737 221 and either of us would be more than happy to set aside a time to meet with you.

Finally

Thanks for the many ways in which you support Calf Club Day. While a lot of work for everyone involved, Calf Club Day reminds us that country schools are special, and a legacy well worth preserving. We have a busy but exciting term ahead, drop by with any questions, looking forward to connecting.

Kind Regards Nga mihi nui

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them



Community Notices

Ruatangata Playcentre AGM - Tuesday 23 October 18, 10am @ Ruatangata Playcentre (1190 Pipiwai Rd). All welcome.

Ruakaka Surf Lifesaving - Junior Surf programme, Open day & Enrolments on this Sunday 21st October from 11-12noon at Ruakaka Surf Club. Info check www.ruakakalifeguards.co.nz

Kamo Swimming Club – 2018/19 Season - Stroke Improvement lessons for children who can swim 10m in basic strokes without stopping. Held at Kamo High School Pool, Wilkinson Ave from Monday 29th October at 4.25pm and thereafter Mondays & Fridays. *Registration day Friday 26 October at KHS Pool*, come and enrol. High School students & parents welcome - good opportunity to come & swim lengths, get stroke improvement tips and fitness in a relaxed environment. Cost per swimmer only \$85 for the season – very reasonable cost to ensure your child is swim safe and competent. Contact Karena Nisbet – 027 470 7955 for more info.

Kaurihohore Market Day - This Monday 22nd October 9am-2pm at the Kaurihohore Hall, Apotu Road. Specialty crafts, Christmas cakes & gifts, home baking, produce, plants & more. New stalls welcomed. www.facebook.com/Monday-Market-at-Kaurihohore-2179354265669617/

Operation Christmas Child

Christmas boxes for children in need (as a result of poverty, war, famine, natural disaster or disease). School families are invited to support by bringing a suitable item for children in need. Examples – small soft toy, stationery items, toiletries. No food or breakables, or decks of cards/dices. Please bring to school by next Friday 26th. More info check operationchristmas.org.nz



School Lunches

Mondays - \$3.00 : Baked Beans or Spaghetti served with toast & a juice, or Chicken or Beef Cup of Noodles & a juice. Order at the office by morning tea on Monday.

Wednesdays - \$1.50 : for Sausage (meat or vegetarian option) in bread with sauce. Order on Wednesday mornings through the classroom.

Fridays - \$4.00 - Hot Mince Pie or Mince & Cheese Pie or Sausage Roll (with Museli Bar) or Butter Chicken Wrap or \$4.50 - Chicken Salad Wrap. All delivered with a juice box. Or swap the Fruit drink for a Milk for \$1 extra. Order by Wednesday afternoon at the office, to receive Friday. We cannot supply lunches on Friday if the order is placed after 9am Thursday morning.

