

SUMPTER BAUGHEN

Chartered Accountants

Ph 09 438 3939
sarahk@sumpters.co.nz
www.sumpters.co.nz



Contact: David van Boldrik
Tel: 0800 830 600 or 027 497 6550
Email: graemebird@vodafone.co.nz
www.gbirdconcretecutting.co.nz



Dave Neumann Limited
Effluent Spreading
Tel : 09 433 5069
Mobile : 021 731 223
Email : pammyb@xtra.co.nz



**Professional Asbestos Removal
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Email : josh@protectus.co.nz
Tel : 021 586 976
www.protectus.co.nz



Tel : 021 143 9323
Email :
meganlicious.cakes@hotmail.com



46 Kaka Street Whangarei
Tel : 09 438 7209
Email : gmswhg@gmail.com

Newsletter

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Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

... to those parents who supported our year 7 and 8 students at this week's Interschool Sports Tournament.

... to those folk who have put their names forward for the forthcoming Board of Trustee elections.

People of the week

... Please see the end of the newsletter.

... Players of the day - **Basketball**-Shooting Stars: Nikau K & Kaden A; Rockets: Chyanne T; Mavericks: Aaron Lee.

Netball - Fantails: McKenna T; Pukeko's: SummerLee G; Tui's: Amelia T; Weka's: Natalya H; Kiwi's: Summer D; Moa's: Amy E; **Hockey** - KiwiSticks Cobalt - 4 May: Molly Nathan & Livia Henderson (3 grading games); 11 May Brooke Tito; 18 May: Mariela Shortland-Mendez

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

29 May	Teacher's Union Strike day, no school
30 May	Hearing & Vision Screening
3 June	Queen's Birthday
5 June	Year 4 to 6 Winter Sports Tournament
25 June	Matariki Day celebration
27 June	Year 7 Boostrix Vaccinations
1/2 July	Mid year interviews
5 July	Final day of term 2 (22 July - first day of term 3)

Senor Crump ... Our Resident Author

In a recent newsletter, I mentioned that Adam Crump has got his short story published in the U.S. A huge achievement! Some of you may know that newly published authors greatly multiply their chances of a second published work when there is a good response to the first. So ... if you feel inclined to support, you might like to order a copy at the link below, and become part of the official support team. Adam has offered to sign any local copies, which is an added bonus. So, no pressure, here is the link ... <https://www.lulu.com/shop/search.ep...> (you will see here that Senor Crump is rubbing shoulders with some pretty famous names in the literary world).

Hayden Martin Electrical

Tel - 027 645 8923

Email -
admin@hmeelectrical.com



366 Kamo Road
Kamo
Tel : 09 435 1924

From recent weeks ... please visit our website and click on newsletters

Morning Arrival Times Measles AIMS Games Soon to be 5 Year olds
Digital Devices Lunch order forms Drink Bottles School Attendance

TEACHER STRIKE DAY - 29 MAY

Many of you will be aware that the Teachers' Union (NZEI) has called a nationwide strike over pay and conditions scheduled for Wednesday 29 May. Accordingly, Matarau School will be closed for instruction on this day, but will be open for administrative work and general enquiries.

Staff sincerely apologise for any inconvenience caused to our parents and students, and hope that you understand that this is not just about their pay, it is about very serious levels of under-funding across the system, which have significant negative implications for students.

So please do not send your children to school on this day.

Our After School Care providers may be able to offer supervision if there is enough interest on a paid basis.

If interested please phone Kim on 021 066 3806.

Matarau School HONEY FOR SALE!

You can purchase a jar (or 2) by sending back the yellow order form sent home last week and payment can be either cash at the office or payment into the school bank account.

The price is \$12 each for an approximately 600g jar.

Lots of jar's left at this stage - but don't miss out!!

Feedback is it's great tasting honey - and all collected by our local bees!

School Contributions

Requests for school contributions, etc were emailed this week to families who opted for term payments or haven't paid school fees yet. The school contribution is optional, but the board strongly encourages all families to pay their contribution. The school contribution helps meet a critical shortfall in government funding & enables us to provide extra resources & opportunities for the benefit of all children. Please also note that payment requests include the annual fee for Maths Whizz & Activity (EOTC) Fees. The activity fee entitles children to attend events where fees are levied by external agents, or to take materials home with them. If you do not wish for your children to attend or participate in these activities it is not necessary to pay the activity fee. The Board appreciates all contributions. Regular part payment arrangements are welcome. Contact Kevin if you would like to discuss your options.

Plastics and the Environment

Please help us to reduce the amount of plastic coming to school each day by using compartmentalised lunchboxes and/or removing plastic wrappings from items before packing. We have explained to children that plastic dropped here enters waterways, and eventually the sea, and that this can cause sometimes irreversible damage. If you have time you could reinforce the critical importance of caring for our environment and that even small things, added together, can make a huge difference.

Cambridge .. survey of former students

We would be keen for as many of our former Cambridge students as possible to complete a Google survey. If you have a child who was on this programme last year, please ask them if they would be willing to be surveyed. If they say yes, and we hope they will, could you please email their current email address to Mrs Donaldson at kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz

We have been getting great feedback from former students, and secondary schools, but want to ensure our programmes as well calibrated as possible. Thank you for your assistance!

School Library

We would like to invite you to drop by our library next time you're passing. We have a special team invested with responsibility for taking the library, and the love of books, to the next level. Phase one has involved creating an exciting and vibrant library environment. Although a team effort, special credit must go to our librarian Paula for the work she does (above and beyond), and to Di Taylor for her diligent work behind the scenes covering and repairing books.

So .. please visit in the next week or two (hopefully with your child) AND SIGN OUR VISITORS BOOK just to show your child, and other children, that you thought our library was important enough to visit. We will be involving all of our parents in the library in some way soon and **so this is your first homework task.** Parents signing the visitor's book will be acknowledged in forthcoming newsletters, and will go in the draw for a prize. Children of these parents will also go in the draw for a prize.

Library - Overdue Books

Last week you may have received a request to seek out the darkest corners of your child's bedroom to see if you can locate any school library books. Not only are we keen to retrieve some of our missing books, we also want to tidy up and improve our systems for the issue and tracking of books, update our records, and then roll with some exciting initiatives which will give your child easier access to books, and enable you to support them in this process. We need to tidy up first before we can take this step.

So, please do a thorough check (you might be amazed where books can hide), and return any overdue books to us by the end of next week. A thorough parent look is worthwhile, you would be amazed how often a box of books is returned to us when a child exits for high school.

Having said all of this, please just do your best. We are improving our systems, and we know you will be very enthusiastic about some of the initiatives soon to roll. Thank you in anticipation and thank you so much for being the reading role models our children so desperately need.

Board of Trustee's Triennial Election - Update

Nominations have closed today. More nominations were received than places available on the Board, so there is a postal election. Voting forms & candidate statements will be in the post from Monday. Please vote & return your voting form in the supplied envelope to the school office by noon on Friday 7 June - either by post or hand deliver. Please see Helen (who is the returning officer) if you have any general questions.

Finally

I was thinking this week of how I might encourage you to stay the distance with our virtues programme. When home and school engage in similar conversations around virtues (and maybe other things), the outcomes of these conversations are greatly multiplied.

This week I wanted to encourage you with the following feedback received by the school after this week's Year 7 and 8 Interschool Sports Tournament.

We would like to especially acknowledge ...

... *Asher O'Donnell*, who stepped forward in defence of another student who was the victim of some unpleasant bullying by other students from his (the other student's) school. My understanding is that Asher was, himself, hit as a result of this intervention. We are hugely proud of Asher for taking this action, which, as the unfolding of this event revealed, was not without personal cost.

... *Ava Perkins*, who (at another venue) went out of her way to encourage a disabled student in the opposing team. This student was struggling to be effective, and was receiving little support, or encouragement, from his own team members. After tackling an opposing team member, Ava passed the ball to the student concerned, and stood back as he proceeded to score a goal for his (the opposing) team.

... Florrie Whittacker-Cook who, as goal-keeper for our team, willingly allowed this student to score not once, but twice.

... our entire hockey team for their part in this act of kindness.

We are very proud of these students who were a wonderful example to all present. They are a reminder to us of the many other-centred acts, which go on around us all of the time if we open our eyes to them. Our hockey team drew in this game ... but in all reality they won hands down, and, by association, so did the rest of us!

Regards,
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them

**Hayden Martin
Electrical**

School Lunches

Wednesdays - \$1.50 : for Sausage (meat or vegetarian option) in bread with sauce.

Order on Wednesday mornings through the classroom teacher.

Fridays - EXCITING NEW MENU.

Snack Boxes – delivered with a juice box for \$6.00 each

A choice of Mini Hotdog & Chips Fish Bites & Chips Chicken Nuggets & Chips

Tasty Toppa's delivered with a juice box for \$5.00 each

A choice of Lasagne Toppa Macaroni Cheese Toppa

Or **Simply a Hot Chip Box** for \$3.00 each

These Old Favourites are still on the Menu ...

Sausage Roll, Museli Bar & a juice box for \$4.00 Crispy Chicken Salad Wrap & juice box for \$5.00

Swap any juice box meal for a Flavoured Milk for just \$1 extra (Chocolate, Strawberry or Banana)

Order by Wednesday at the office, to receive Friday. Please note - We cannot supply lunches on Friday if the order is placed after 9am on Thursday morning.

Community Notices

Battery Recycling Please note that EcoSolutions will collect household batteries for recycling. Please drop your used batteries into them at 141 Cameron Street - next to the Toolshed.

Mobile Phone Recycling – send in old or unwanted cell phones to the school office & we will send away for recycling – some are cleaned & sent to places like Africa, others are dismantled & as much as possible is recycled into new items.

Firewood for Sale – gum, dry/split \$110m3 delivered locally free, elsewhere by arrangement.
Ph Kevin 021 191 5911.

Kiwi North notice - *The first official 'listening window' for the 2019 Annual Northland Kiwi Call Count Survey runs from May 22nd - June 10th. Find more details*

at: <https://kiwicoast.org.nz/events/northland-annual-kiwi-call-count-survey/> Students and their families can take part and contribute to our understanding of the increasing numbers of kiwi in our area.

Whangarei Line Dancers - looking for new members - weekly classes for beginners Tuesdays 5-6pm Parish Hall, 2a Kamo Road, from 28th May. 6 week introduction course for just \$36.
Phone Bev 021 268 4681 or email baxter.beverley399@gmail.com

Rizing Stars Drama - Bugsy Malone 28th June to 6 July, Riverbank Theatre. Has a cast of over 30 kids and should be very entertaining. Bookings – at Storytime or Reyburn House or online at whangareitheatrecompany.co.nz

KINGS SEED FUNDRAISER – We are getting in early this year!

Early notice that order forms will be sent home by mid-June and seeds delivered to you before the July holidays ready for winter/spring planting. **SO WATCH THIS SPACE !**