

# SUMPTER BAUGHEN

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## Newsletter

Number 03

14 February 2020

Website [www.matarau.school.nz](http://www.matarau.school.nz)

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



**MATARAU SCHOOL**

### Thank you

... to those wonderful parents who generously gave their time this week to assist with timing of swimming trials.

... to those who helped out with headlice inspections.

... Gary Hampton for your generosity in helping out with our swimming pool.

... for payment of voluntary contributions.

... to those parents who are making themselves available to assist at forthcoming camps.

### Newsletters (Keeping Informed)

Newsletters are issued to the eldest child in each family every second Friday. Please ensure your child hands the newsletter to you when they arrive home. If your child is absent, newsletters will be held until their next day of attendance. Copies of our newsletter are also available on our website and are emailed - if you would like to receive your newsletter by email, and do not currently, please contact us.

### Person of the week ... and a special welcome

... to Whaea Pera our Te Reo teacher. Part of the team already!

### Virtues Focus for 2020

As in earlier years, we will unfold an overarching virtues context in term 1, and then work on supporting virtues in the following terms. Our overarching context this year will be around how we use our **gifts and talents** in service of others. Much more to follow!

### Term calendar ... *More to follow as dates come to hand!*

18 Feb	Year 3 to 8 Swimming Sports
24 Feb	Individual Duathlon
26 Feb	Team Duathlon
2/4 Mar	Parent Interviews
3 Mar	Zone Swimming Sports at Kokopu School
9-13 March	Year 7 camp to Auckland
18 March	Interschool Swimming Sports
20 March	Year 1 to 2 Swimming Sports
24-27 March	Year 5/6 Camp to Lonsdale Park - CAMP 1
30 Mar- 2 Apr	Year 5/6 Camp to Lonsdale Park - CAMP 2
8 April	Northland Swimming Champs - Dargaville (TBC)
9 April	Final day of term 1

*For all your electrical needs*

**H.M.E**

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### From our last newsletter (available via our website)

Newsletters - keeping informed    Daily Absences    School Contributions    Laptops    Corona Virus  
Senior Options Programme    School Gates    Cell phones    Stationery    Swimming Gear    Bus times  
Pick up of Children    Contact Details    Medications    Friday Lunches    Communications  
Scholastic book orders    Guitar Lessons    Term Dates 2020

### Date Changes

... Please note that interviews will now be held on 2 and 4 of March, and **not** 2 and 3 March, due to a timetabling clash. Booking information will be sent home shortly.

... The Zone Swimming Sports at Kokopu School will now be held on 3 March, and **not** 5 March as formerly advised.

### School Duathlon Events - 19 and 20 February

... for year 4-8 students, will take place as follows ...

Individual Event - Monday 24 February ... 12.50-1.40pm

Team Event - Wednesday 26 February ... 12.50-1.40pm

Students will need bike, helmet & appropriate clothing. Parents welcome to support the racers. We can store bikes in the school hall between events. Any questions in the run up to this event should be directed to Mr Delemare please.

### School Swimming Sports

Please keep 18 February (years 3 to 8), and 20 March (years 1 and 2) free to join us for swimming sports.

Details for the year 3 to 8 Swimming Sports are as follows ...

#### **Year 5-8**

9:30 - 10:30 freestyle one length

10:30 - 11:00 freestyle two length

11:00-11:30 backstroke one length

11:30 - 12:00 backstroke two length

12:00 - 12:30 breaststroke one length

12:30 - 1pm breaststroke two length

#### **Year 3 & 4**

1:05 - 1:40pm one length

1:40 - 2pm two length

2pm House Relay-Boys Relay-Girls Relay

2:15 Novelty Relay

2:30 Prize giving

A special thank you to **Garnet Motor Services** who are sponsors of this year's Swimming Sports.

### Whaea Pera

We had the privilege this week of welcoming Whaea Pera to our school. Whaea Pera will teach weekly Te Reo lessons in all rooms and in the senior options programme. She will work with staff on ways to carry Te Reo and Tikanga over into the other days of the week, and will assist to include the Maori world view in major units of work. The kids and staff have already fallen in love with Whaea Pera and we know she will become a much valued part of our school.

### Headlice Inspections

Inspections this week indicated fairly low levels of infestation. If you received a letter advising of infestation, or suspected infestation, it is critical that you treat your child before school on Monday please so that we contain this problem. If you need assistance or advice please contact the school office.

### Digital Devices

From time to time we get questions on how much children use digital devices at school. This is an excellent question, and there are myriad reasons why it is such a good question. At Matarau School we try to limit device usage to around 30% of learning time. While digital devices are a necessary part of life, and an invaluable learning tool, there are other important ways for children to learn, and too much screen time can have a definite downside. The goal is balance and we will audit this regularly.

### Senior Study Hour (Years 7 & 8)

There are a number of benefits to your children continuing their year 7 and 8 education at Matarau School (enumerated on our website), but one of these is Senior Study Hour. This is an opportunity for your child to have supervised time to complete, or continue, work related to their regular class programme. They do not usually receive new work here, it is a chance to consolidate what they are learning, as well as to practise in areas of weakness, to close any gaps, to ask questions, to work in a smaller group, and maybe to get some targeted support. They may also get the opportunity to take some concepts a little further, or to complete homework with a teacher on hand if they are having difficulty. There is no cost to parents of

children involved in Senior Study Hour. **Senior Study Hour operates 3:00 to 4:00 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.** Children may attend anywhere from 1 to 3 of these weekly sessions. If you would like to register your child please do so by contacting Mrs Donaldson on [kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz](mailto:kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz).

### **Parents are welcome at Board meetings**

Agendas for forthcoming Board Meeting are displayed on the noticeboard by the hall the week prior to the meeting. A speaking time is allocated to parents (usually around 10 minutes). Parents are also welcome to ask questions on topics of interest to them. If you let the office know of your attendance in advance, we will prepare material for you. The Board will hold its first meeting for 2020 in Kevin's office, 6:00 pm Monday 24 February.

### **Parent Support Group**

The newly formed Parent Support Group is meeting **next Wednesday 19th Feb at 6.30pm** in the staffroom. We would love to see some new faces - many hands make light work! It is a great opportunity to support our awesome school, meet new friends and learn or practice new skills. We will begin fundraising planning. Questions or comments can be directed to [psg@matarau.school.nz](mailto:psg@matarau.school.nz), or any of the committee who are as follows: Fiona Goodin - Chairperson Lisa Ryan - Secretary Carmen Tonks - Treasurer Karen Walker and Stephanie Peterson - Fundraising Coordinators Laura Douglas and Jennie Perris - Volunteer and Community Coordinators

### **Sunhats**

A reminder that school bucket sunhats are compulsory in terms 1 and 4. Please ensure these are packed at the beginning of each school day. New hats can be purchased from the office for \$10. Clothing which covers the shoulders is also advisable with sun block at your discretion.

### **Long lasting sun block**

... this was mentioned in last weeks e-newsletter. If anyone wants us to see if we can negotiate a knock down price just let Kevin know ([principal@matarau.school.nz](mailto:principal@matarau.school.nz)). We have done this in the past and, if there are enough of you, we will give it a go. Supposed to be good, and one application at home in the morning does it for the day. (But please remember that clothing that covers shoulders and arms is always the best option).

### **Homework**

Home Learning is **encouraged but optional** at Matarau School. For most children this will mean 4 nights home learning a week (around 20 minutes each night), with most of this time spent on word learning, maths basic facts and reading, with one activity related to their class programme. Parents should feel free to advise their child's teacher if the load needs to be lightened for any reason, or if they wish their child excused from home learning altogether. This saves tension and time wasted chasing home learning. **If you do NOT want your child to receive home learning, please advise their teacher NEXT week.** If you are on board, please set a regular time and place, and advise us if we can help with any "speed wobbles" along the way. Let's start as we mean to continue, by getting routines well established.

*(Although the research is a little inconclusive, we believe that regular home learning routines lead to better performance, a better preparation for secondary school, and better longer term outcomes for a good number of children).*

### **Punctuality**

In order to aid in the smooth operation of classes (and in order to teach an important life skill) we request that children are at school at least 10-15 minutes before the morning bell to give them time to settle, connect with their teacher, and prepare for the day ahead. If running unavoidably late please give the school office a call, we understand that sometimes things don't quite go to plan. Many thanks.

### **Learning Support Programme**

A number of parents were advised last year that their children had been placed in Learning Support programmes to commence 2020. This is a valuable opportunity for a more personalized and intensive learning programme, in an area of need, and parental support with assigned homework tasks is expected.

### **Pool Keys**

The pool will be available for use by school families outside of school hours. Hire keys are available from the school office at \$40 per family for the 2020 swimming season. If you have a key from last year it is important that you return this as soon as possible. Last year's keys will not work on the lock in 2020. No fence jumping please.

### Parent Helpers

We well know the difference that can be made through the involvement of parent helpers. If you can commit some regular time to a classroom (or some other area of the school) please make contact with your child's teacher or drop by to the office. If you do assist in classrooms you will be asked to read over some guidelines and suggestions prior to starting. **It is absolutely critical that parent helpers respect the privacy of children and their families by ensuring that any observations or impressions are not discussed outside of the school.**

Please give Kevin a call if you wish to further discuss your potential involvement.

### Creating optimal conditions for learning (just a reminder... in brief)

- drinking plenty of water.** Parents are asked to ensure children bring a water bottle to school each day.
- a good nights sleep.** A target bedtime of 8:00 PM (or earlier) is suggested for all children.
- a suitable breakfast and healthy lunch.** With food as close as possible to its natural form.
- don't forget to show an interest** in what your child is doing at school. Share mealtimes with them.

### After School Care

If you think you would use our After School Care programme please contact Tracey on 021 127 1115 to enrol, or for more information.

### Stretching the finances

Life can be expensive at times, and school expenses can simply add to the burden. So PLEASE drop by and see Kevin or Paula if things are tough at the moment, we will come up with a plan that works for you.

### Primary & Intermediate Schools Tennis DOUBLES Championships.

**Date:** Wednesday 4 March 2020 (rain delay date Wednesday 11 March 2020) Time: 9:15am until 2:30 pm  
**Age Groups:** Primary (Years 5 & 6) and Intermediate (Years 7 & 8) Entry Fee: \$20.00 (per pair). Please Bring: Lunch, drinks, sun hat and sun block. *Please wear nonmarking soled shoes and bring your own tennis racket.* Queries and Entries DIRECT TO: Pete Stenberg at [pa.stenberg@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pa.stenberg@xtra.co.nz) or 021 270 0229  
**entries close:** Friday 28 February 2020 at 5:00 pm.

### Hearing your child read

Please show an interest in what your child has done at school each day. If you have time, read to them, listen to them read, and spend time discussing what you/they have read. Research continues to indicate that reading from text (hard copy) as hugely more beneficial, in the development of reading and thinking skills, than reading from a screen. So... books with covers, and pages that turn, remain the BEST way to learn to read. If you need help hooking your child into home reading please connect with their classroom teacher.

### School Direction for 2020

Kevin is available by appointment to talk about the direction of the school this year, and is happy to speak with individuals or groups. We can also arrange chats on topics of special interest, just let us know where your interests especially lie. Writing, reading mileage (including use of the library), science and technology and student wellbeing (including growing kindness and resilience) are topics of special interest to us this year, and so drop by to chat, or tap your child's teacher on the shoulder if you want to know more.

### Finally

And thank you for the prompt payment of school contributions. We are well aware that many of these payments are voluntary, and it is humbling that so many of you are prepared to help meet funding shortfalls. Board and staff are determined to get you maximum dollar for these contributions, and we never take these contributions for granted. We have asked the government to confirm if it will deliver on its promise to meet the funding shortfall in all schools (including higher decile schools) but have not yet had a reply. We will keep you posted.

Nga mihi  
Kevin Trehwella  
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your  
children, please support them



## Friday Lunch 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, Muesli Bar & a juice box for \$4.00
- Crispy Chicken Salad & a juice box for \$5.00

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

## Community notices

### AFTER SCHOOL DRAMA CLASSES

Drama classes for primary and intermediate students will start on Tuesday 18 February at the Kamo High Drama room, Wilkinson Ave, Kamo. Classes run from 3.30 to 4.30 There's a possibility of a Thursday class at the same time if there is enough interest. Please contact Jessie Bell for more information - [bellbird12@gmail.com](mailto:bellbird12@gmail.com) or 021459048.

There's a possibility of a Thursday class at the same time if there is enough interest.

**Mangakahia Junior Soccer Club** invites boys & girls aged 5 - 12 to join for this year's season.

Registration days - Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Feb on field at Maungatapere School or Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Feb at Kokopu School.  
Rego times from 3pm to 5pm. Enquires to Rebecca Harrow 021 1295 734.

Junior Interclub is due to begin this Sunday 9 February 2020 at 9.30pm at Thomas Neale.

As Club coaching has not yet started we thought we would just have Match practice this Sunday for the juniors who are keen to participate. So it will not be necessary to have a team mate at this stage.

From there teams can be either made up or we could just carry on with the match play.

The date for the Counties vs Northland juniors rep match is set down for Sunday 8 March 2020 at Pukekohe, so I would like the junior ladders to be reasonably accurate by then.

Tennis Northland has received polo shirts and singlets for the juniors to wear on this occasion.

Raewyn Heywood Tennis Northland Inc 0274386197

**Dyslexia PLUS** Open Night, Thursday 27 February 2020 5:30 to 7:30pm

Pursuing Your Potential First Floor Civic Arcade, Bank St 09 430 0693 [admin@dyslexiaplus.org.nz](mailto:admin@dyslexiaplus.org.nz)

Is your child being well taught but still not making the progress you would expect?

Could your child be dyslexic, have a specific learning disability?

Come and see where we are based, meet our teaching team and learn what we can offer to support your child's learning.

All welcome. Entry is through the fire escape on Bank St.