

Newsletter reminders and updates – Week 4

Thanks

... to those who attended swimming sports this week, to Mrs Donaldson for her leadership, and Garnet Motor Services for their sponsorship.

Individual Duathlon ... change of date

... was Monday 24 February ... now Tuesday 25 February

School Duathlon Events – 25 and 26 February

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

Individual Event - Tuesday 25 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.

Well done

... to those children who swam their hearts out this week and to those who supported them.

... to Summer Curnow who achieved a bronze and two silvers for her year group in the 50 mtrs freestyle, breaststroke and butterfly events at an interschool swimming championship this week, apparently swimming against secondary age students. Well done Summer!

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@atarau.school.nz.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Interview dates are Monday 2nd & Wednesday the 4th March.

Bookings are open for Parents interview now. Visit www.schoolinterviews.co.nz to make your booking. If you don't have internet access or encounter problems please advise the office.

Parents of Year 5 and 6 Children - Forthcoming Camps

Camp Forms will be sent home with your child today. If you are keen to help out on camp there is a form you will need to return to school by Tuesday 11 February, please. This gives us time to submit police vetting forms. Please note that a Medical Form needs to be returned by 14 February.

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.

Long lasting sun block

... this was mentioned in earlier newsletters. If anyone wants us to see if we can negotiate a knockdown price just let Kevin know (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).*

After School Care

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

Nga mihi

Kevin and the Teaching Team

"Let everything you say be good and helpful so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them."

Eph 4:29 (NLT)

Community Notices

Pataua Estuary Snorkel Day

Sunday 1st March 9:30am-12:30pm Registrations essentials. For more information check out www.emr.org.nz or facebook.com / emr.mtsct or e-mail info@emr.org.nz

Kai Iwi Lakes Open Day 2020 - Saturday 21st March / 10am-3pm / Pine Beach

Further info: Search for us on EventFinda, visit www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz or contact isabel@whitebaitconnection.co.nz

Shackleton Sea Scouts

Scouting is a worldwide movement with over 32 million members in 160 countries. Our main focus is the development of young people so that they reach their full potential and take a constructive part in society.

Shackleton Sea Scouts is part of Scouting NZ and we use our amazing Northland maritime environment to do water activities, such as sailing, rowing and kayaking - and land-based activities, such as camping, tramping and survival.

It is open for both boys and girls. Scouts (10.5 to 15 years) and Venturers (15 to 18 years). These sections meet on Mondays from 6.30 pm-8.30 pm at the Shackleton Den (52a Riverside Drive, Whangarei)

Contact shackleton@group.scouts.nz or check out www.shackletonseascouts.nz

Drama lessons

Making a Scene Speech and Drama Academy is now accepting enrollments for the next term. We have a variety of fun and educational classes on offer. TaDaDrama, Speech and Drama and Theatre in Action.

To find out more check out our website enrolmy.com/making-a-scene

The Oral Health Dental Service

A reminder to parents that the Oral Health Dental Service provides a Free Dental Care service for all children until the age of 18.

If you have a child who has not had a dental appointment during the previous year can you please contact 08006983384 so they can arrange an appointment.

You can now also book appointments online at the Kamo Oral Health Clinic by going to www.northlanddhd.org.nz/teeth and following the book appointment screen.

Any other enquires regarding dental care are welcome on 08006983384 or at Oral Health Service at 3 Grant Street Kamo