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sarahk@sumpters.co.nz
www.sumpters.co.nz



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Newsletter

Number 07

13 March 2020

Website www.matarau.school.nz

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



Thank you

... a huge thank you to those amazing parents who helped out with our senior camp this week.

... to those parents already mobilising to prepare our sports teams for the coming season.

People of the week

... our year 7 campers

.. Caden Gunson who, in spite of a broken leg, has continued to coach his Yr 3/4 basketball team at school and then again at his game. You are a super star Caden!!

Virtues Focus for 2020

If you haven't yet done so, please ask your children over the weekend what they feel their special gift or talent is ... something they might like to share in 2020. Much more to follow!

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

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
28 April	First day of term 2

Junior Swimming Sports - 1.45pm - 20 March

You are invited to our Junior School Swimming Sports for years 1 and 2 starting at 1:45pm on Friday 20th March. Please ensure your child has their togs, towel, school hat, jumper, drink bottle and sunblock (all named). All junior children are required to participate.

The main aim for the day is participation and fun!

The swimming races will be in year groups, in the following order

Year 2 - length swimmers, Year 2 - width swimmers, Year 1 - length swimmers, Year 1 - width swimmers

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From our last newsletter (available via our website)

Pool gate Upper carpark Needing guidance with devices Hearing your child read
School direction 2020

Carona Virus - being prepared

At its next meeting the board will confirm the details of our Pandemic Plan. Our goal is to be prepared in advance for each stage in the spread of this virus, to keep your children, our staff and you as safe as we can, and to continue your child's education by distance should the school be closed. We also want to communicate with you moving forward on what measures we are taking, and how you can help. Measures we have taken to date include a near doubling of the number of liquid soap and paper towel dispensers, regular instruction on hand washing, disinfection of all high risk surfaces daily, measures to assist us to cope with staff absences, and firm requests that unwell children are kept at home, or sent home if they present with symptoms of concern.

O2O

It is critical that we have your help by

... ensuring that children with a cough, persistent sneezing, runny nose, vomiting, diarrhoea or fever are kept at home. As a precaution, children arriving at school with any of these symptoms will be put in isolation and pick up will be requested as soon as possible. If both parents work, we suggest that you have a Plan B which can be immediately put in place if your child is sick. This might involve a neighbour, friend or relative.

... ensuring that your child is free of symptoms for at least 48 hours before they return to school.

NB - these are draft protocols at present and will be confirmed by month's end. The board will be guided by advice from health authorities and our response will change as the situation changes.

The Ministries of Health and Education have made this video available to parents seeking to explain this virus to their children. It's Your call on whether or not you use this.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=9&v=OPsY-jLqaXM&feature=emb_logo

Interviews

If you were unable to make interviews, please remember that teachers are highly available by appointment.

Matarau Fleece Sweatshirts

Get ready for winter! We have limited stock in the sizes 4-6-8-10-12 & 14 left in the office.
Any size \$30each.

Netball

Netball season is starting soon. Please make sure you pay your netball fees for this season into the schools account as soon as possible. If you are paying online please use as a reference your child's name and "netball".

Headlice Inspections

Parents are asked to check their children's hair weekly please, and to respond promptly in the event of infestation. Collective responsibility here, means we stay on top of this problem. We have had the occasional parent advice of infestation and so we encourage parents to be vigilant in checking and responding.

Interschool Swimming Sports - 18 March

Best wishes to our zone swimmers. Parents are reminded that they are responsible for transport and supervision for their own child on this Friday. Any questions to Mrs Crawford please.

Matarau School - PSG (Parent Support Group) - meeting Thursday 19th March 2020 at 7pm in school staff room. All welcome. Enquiries, agenda items or RSVP's to the secretary, Lisa Ryan -

lryan@matarau.school.nz or any other committee member. Fiona Goodin, Karen Walker, Jennie Perris, Laura Gibbs, Stephanie Petersen, Carmen Tonks. Hope to see you there.

Request for Parent Helpers

If you have a few hours each week to work in a classroom, the library, the office, etc, please connect with your child's teacher or the school office and we will match you to a task of your choice. Parent help at school makes a huge difference to staff workloads, frees staff to work with children, and contributes to the smooth operation of the school.

We know you are busy, but would be hugely grateful for any time you are able to give.

The senior school is in need of any of the following for one of their Tuesday Options Programme.

- Wool, cardboard tubes, tennis balls, rope, fabric/material (old sheets or blankets), beads, bells, dog and cat treats, small PVC pipe, shoe boxes, old pillows, egg cartons, feathers or pillow stuffing.

Please send it to room 11 (Mrs Gunson)

International Schools English and Maths Competitions - Years 4 - 8

If you would like your child to participate in these (in house) exams for this year, and you have not already done so, please advise Kevin or the school office and we will ensure your child brings home a consent next week. Remember, your child will need to commit to an additional workload of two practice papers a week for approximately 6 weeks prior to the exams.

This year the English Exam will be sat on Monday 24 August and the Maths Exam on Tuesday 1 September.

Friday Lunches

Please remember that these cannot be carried over to the following week if your child is absent. Also a reminder to order your child's lunch before 9am on Thursday morning.

Consent Forms

We love parents who return consent forms promptly. If you do receive a consent letter, please return the attached form the next day if possible to save staff valuable time chasing these up. We know things get busy, but if you could help here that would be much appreciated. Thank you.

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.

Gearing up for Winter Sports

When children wear our school colours on a Saturday morning, they bear a special responsibility to represent our school well. This means more than putting in your best performance on the field/court, it also means demonstrating sportsmanship, supporting other team members, playing fairly, encouraging others, respecting coaches and referees etc. Every child wearing our colours, and every parent who accompanies them, is expected to represent us this way, it is a condition to being in one of our teams. **The ultimate goal of all that we do (including playing sport) should be to grow character, in ourselves and in others.** Please do not question referees, support coaches and managers unequivocally (and if you have a question see them early, privately, and with an open mind), respect the opposition (including their support team), and be careful with your words from the side line. Egos (not only children's egos) can be fragile, and so choose your words carefully. Please let us know of special Saturday achievements so we can celebrate these in the newsletter. Best wishes for the best season ever.

Finally

Over recent weeks we have done quite a bit of communicating and sharing. We love connecting with you. Thank you for your contributions to interviews, for your attendance at meetings, and for the encouragement you give to staff. When it comes to communication, sometimes we guess a bit at what we think you might like to know. If there are bits we miss, just let us know, and we will do our best to create the sorts of conversations you want, on topics of special interest to you.

Nga mihi
Kevin Trehwella
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Community notices

Ruatangata Indoor Bowls, starts Wednesday 11th March at 7:30pm. For more details contact Alan ph.4350141 or Ben ph.4351570

Opera in the garden 'Finale' Saturday 4th April at 2pm. Adults \$40 School age children \$15 Kennaway's Operacado Orchard, 643 Ngunguru Road, Glenbervie.

Tickets: www.eventfinda.co.nz, the Hub or gate sales. Singers: Eliza Boom, Opera North & Kawiti Weatford

Classics at the Cove 12th April from 2.30-5pm. Adults \$25 Children free

Join us in our park like grounds overlooking Bream Bay at 566 Cove Road, Waipu

Singers: Sarah Kent Whittles, Ridge Ponini and Alofa, The Dream Girls, The Wind Chimes and Whangarei Youth Choir are joined by Opera North members and accompanists Mirabella Uphoff and Delwyn Rusk.

Tickets from eventfinda.co.nz or Waipu Hammer Hardware or gates sales.

Northland Futsal Academy - School Holiday Programme, kids age 8-13y - Tue 14th - Fri 17th April
At Home of Northland futsal @ Excellere College, Kamo / 1 day \$40 per day or 3+ days \$35 per day
Register online www.northlandfutsalacademy.co.nz or contact Christian 021 2467328

For more details contact Maree at the Opuia Shool office for further details. office@opua.school.nz

Kiwi Kids Can Cook. Northland regionals at the Opuia School Easter Gala on the 4th April 10-2pm
The 2020 Kiwi Kids Can Cook is sponsored by vegetables.co.nz group. Competitors are now only required to have ONE recipe to cook on the day but it must be a savoury dish that contains at least three fresh NZ grown vegetables. Go to www.nzchefs.org.nz/competitions for more details or contact Maree at the Opuia Shool office for further details. office@opua.school.nz



KIWI KIDS CAN COOK **vegetables.co.nz** **NZCHEFS ASSOCIATION INC**

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Do you like the taste of good food?
Have you got a favourite dish you love to cook?
Are you in a Northland School and in Year 1-8?
If the answer is yes, we want you!

To be held at:
The Opuia School Easter Gala
Saturday 4th April 2020
Opuia, Bay of Islands

Heaps of Fun
Fantastic Prizes
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REPRESENT YOUR SCHOOL IN A FUN COOKING COMPETITION!

The 2020 *Kiwi Kids Can Cook* is sponsored by vegetables.co.nz.
Competitors are required to have ONE recipe to cook on the day.
It must be a savoury dish that contains at least three fresh NZ grown vegetables.

For more details and the entry form go to:
www.nzchefs.org.nz/Competitions