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Newsletter Number 5 5 June 2020



Website www.matarau.school.nz

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

Thank you

- ... Ms Gentil and family for donation of the chicken coop.
- ... Parents for donation of drinks bottles (and the "water bottle Teacher Aide team" for overseeing this every day).

People of the week

- \dots our sports team coaches and managers for your work in the run-up to resumption of sport.
- ... again, to all parents for your support during level 2
- ... those staff co-ordinating our forthcoming celebration of books.

Virtues Focus for 2020

Please continue with the CARING virtue.

<u>Term calendar</u> ... More to follow as dates come to hand!

Tues June 16 Library - Grand Celebration

Thu June 18 Book Character Day - Costume Parade Mon June 22 Meeting of BoT (Zoom this time)

Fri July 3 Final day of term 2 Mon 20 July First day of term 3

Level 2 and beyond

When NZ moves to level 1 there will be a significant reduction in current health and safety protocols. Break times will resort to normal times (10:30-10:50 and 12:35-1:30) from Monday, but other measures (including visitors to the site) remain unchanged for the moment. When NZ moves to level 1 we will advise an almost immediate return to "normal" protocols, maybe even sooner.

So just for clarity... parents on site

If you have urgent business, please enter the school by the side gate (by the hall) and report straight to the office where you will be signed in and where, hopefully, we can provide the assistance you need. So please, if you drop your child at school, farewell them at the gate, and we will take it from there. Otherwise please call the office (4335823) and they will assist you.



WOF, Lubes & Tyres 46 Kaka Street Whangarei

Tel: 09 438 7209

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Tel: 09 435 1924

Fitness for school - THIS CONDITION WILL REMAIN IN PLACE THROUGHOUT LEVEL 1

It is ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL that sick children are NOT sent to school. There are no conditions that would warrant this. To send a sick child puts other children, and staff, at risk, and could have serious knock-on effects. So, if your child has a cough, a sore throat, head or body aches, fever, breathlessness etc., please keep the m home and seek medical advice if necessary. Please keep them at home for a minimum of 48 hours after cessation of final symptoms, or longer on the advice of their doctor ... always err on the side of caution. If you are contacted by the school to pick your child up please arrange this promptly. You will be advised from where to collect your child.

Pick up and drop off

Please ensure that no child is ever dropped on the school grounds before 8:00 am or left at school after 3:30pm. We are unable to offer supervision (and ensure safety) outside of these times. Thank you.

Drink Bottles

Please ensure that children bring their drink bottle to school each day. It might be a good idea for them to keep this in their schoolbag when they get home, take it out to fill it in the morning, and then pop it straight back into their bag.

Sunhats

... optional during terms 2 and 3 ... so your call!

Hand Towels

We would like to suggest that children bring their own (named) hand towel to school each day. This will stay IN their bag and will NOT be used by other children. Some children may find a hand towel easier to manage than paper towels, and you may only need to wash these every 2 or 3 days

Pool Keys

If you hired a pool key last term, thank you. It will soon be time to collect these and so maybe hunt around and get your key ready for return. We will request these in a week or so, when we have more open site access.

Library Books

Any library books borrowed prior to lockdown are now due to be returned. Can these please be returned to school as soon as possible for other children to enjoy? Maybe check on bookshelves and under beds. Thank you!

International Schools English and Maths Competitions - Years 4 - 8

If your child took practice papers home for the lockdown they can continue to work on these, or return them to school if not required. We may be in a position to issue further practice papers in due course. We suggest that children record their times and scores to track their progress.

Scholastic Orders

The new Lucky Book Club folder was handed out to your child this week. If you like to order books, you can do this online or use the form. Closing date is Friday the 3rd July.

Reading

This year we are coupling our writing focus with a focus on reading. Some of us think that kids don't quite love books the way they used to, and that this is to their detriment. There are so many distractions from books, some of these very worthwhile distractions, but when kids read books special things happen. There is a growing body of research too which is suggesting that books held (rather than viewed on screen), pages turned, and impressions shared, grows literacy skills and broadens minds. So, in coming weeks, and through the next holidays, we will be asking you to help us to lift books up high and to get kids reading, reading and reading. Much more to follow.

Costume Parade

As part of our reading focus, we will hold a Book Character Parade on Thursday 18 June (details below). This is OPTIONAL but we are encouraging interested children to come dressed as their favourite book character. Please do not go to too much trouble, don't hire costumes, just see what you can come up with. If other kids have a reasonable chance of guessing who the character is, then the costume is quite good enough.

Finally

You are cordially invited to our (above) Book Character Parade on the main court (or in the hall if wet) from 10:00 am to 10:30 am on Thursday 18 June. You will also get a chance to visit our revamped library and to get a feel for just how much Matarau School LOVES BOOKS! So ... please pencil this date into your diaries. See you there!

Nga mihi Kevin Trewhella PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your children, please support them



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Community notices



Our OSCAR (Out of School Care and Recreation) program is an After School, Before School, and School Holiday Program for children aged between 7 and 13.

Our OSCAR program here at ESGW provides children with opportunities that assist them to develop physically, socially, creatively, and emotionally while playing in a fun and safe environment.

We have info packs in store ready for collection for any parents wanting more information. Alternatively, we have a website with more information: https://www.esportsgamingwhangarei.co.nz/extreme-kids.

Also, parents who are eligible could get access to a WINZ subsidy which will help them with fees. We have info packs with WINZ forms onsite for any parents who need them or alternatively they can access them online.



