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Newsletter Number 13 30 October 2020



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Thanks

... To this week's headlice inspection team. We really appreciate your support with this.

... To our Parent Support Group for their recent fund-raising efforts.

People of the Week

... To those parents putting their hand up at the moment for forthcoming school trips, fun days etc ... these events would simply not proceed without your support.

... To those who supported our Booktober reading initiative ... we hoped you loved reading with your children so much that you never want to stop!

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

2 November	School athletics competitions under way
2 November	Room 8 Sailing trip
4 November	Year 5-6 Tennis Tournament
5 November	Senior Ten Pin Bowling
9 November	Senior School Dramatic Production
9 November	Room 10 Sailing trip
11 November	Zone Athletics at Poroti School
16 November	Room 9 Sailing trip
16 November	Portfolios due for the Art Scholarships (3:00 pm)
16 November	Senior School Speech Competition
23 November	Hearing and Vision Tests
25 November	Year 7 Fun day
26 November	Year 7 Sailing day
27 November	Car Boot Sale
30 November	School Team Athletics Day
1 December	Parent Helpers Morning Tea
1 December	Year 8 Waka Ama Day
2 December	Year 8 visit to the Adventure Forest
3 December	Year 8 Paintball and Swim Day
4 December	Year 8 Formal Dinner
4 December	Our Kapa Haka group performs at Whangarei Festival
7 December	School Prize Giving (underway 6:30 pm)
8 December	End of year reports issued
9 December	Confirmation of classes 2021
10 December	Final day of school (school finishes 3:00 pm)
3 February 2021	First day back to school

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Player of the day Basketball

	21 st October	28 th October
Mon-Stars	Justin & Sarai	Cian & Tyde
Stars	Dane & Ashton R.	James & Tyson
Mavericks	Caden	Caden, Piper & Ollie
Warriors	LeArli & Aamani	Malachi, Taylor R. & Wayne

Dane G, Ashton R, James T & Cian for filling in for those unable to play and playing multiple games!

Staff netball team- pod Shelley Ringrose

Cross Country Championship

Kaden Auton	13 th	8 year old boy
Tia Welsh	3 rd	9 year old girls
Lydia Jongkind	2 nd	10 year old girls
Florrie Whittacker-Cook	6 th	12 year old girls
Lily Steward	9 th	12 year old girls
Kate Easterbrook	10 th	12 year old girls
Ryley Stephens-Green	13 th	12 year old boys

Sailing

A reminder that the Year 5/6 Sailing Days at Parua Bay start next week. On their respective days, please ensure that students are *at school by 8.45*. They need to bring lunch, drink, hat, sunblock, suitable attire for the water, towel, and suitable footwear. More information will be provided to each class closer to their day.

Mathex

Congratulations to our teams who attended the Mathex competitions this week. Students had a lot of fun, and we had some amazing results. Especially to our year 5 team with Bodhi M., Thomas W., Ava B & Samara W. They came third. Well Done! 020 2552

Sunhats

A reminder that sunhats are compulsory in term 1 & 4. Please check that your child has their regulation navy blue Matarau School sunhat as they head to school each day. You can buy a new one for \$10 or there is a limited supply of second hand ones for \$5 each, from the office. Northland has the highest rates of sun cancer in the world. Let's all step up here please. Children without their sunhats next week will be confined to shade areas - which will annoy them like crazy.



Out of Zone Applications

OOZ placements for 2021 have been confirmed and all families should, by now, have heard from our school office. If you have any questions in the run up to your child's first day please don't hesitate to ask or just drop by. We are happy to show any new families around the school.

If your plans change

... and your child will, or will not, be at Matarau School next year contrary to your earlier indications, please let us know as early as possible as this may have implications for class placements and class numbers.

Headlice Inspections

Inspections this week indicated moderate levels of infestation. If you received a letter advising of infestation, or suspected infestation, please take action before your child returns to school on Monday. If we all act at the same time we have the best possible chance of keeping these nasty critters at bay. Happy to connect anyone with a health nurse if you need advice, guidance or support.



School Cups & Trophies

2020 prize giving is coming up fast. If you have school cups at home please get these back to school as soon as possible. Thank you!

Art Scholarship - Years 4 to 8

Due date for these Monday 16 November (3:00 pm). Your child's teacher is available to help in any way they can in the run up to this date.



Spelling Bee Competitions

... are under way very soon. If you are keen for your child to participate, and they are a strong speller, please flick their teacher an email this weekend.

Car Boot Sale

Kids! Make room for Christmas! Start cleaning your rooms and sorting your toys, clothes and games. You can make some Christmas pocket money by selling stuff you don't use at our Car Boot Sale, Friday night 27 November. \$5 per car, \$15 per car and trailer.

Text Carmen your name and car registration to reserve your spot - 027 433 8056

Do you have any library books at home?

As we have a library stocktake fast approaching, we wondered if you could have a really good look for books at home, under beds, in wardrobes, school bags etc and return any books that you find to the school library ASAP. Many thanks.

Junior Readers

Please check at home (under beds, behind book cases etc) for junior readers and send these along to school next week. It is important that we have complete sets for 2021. So ... we are missing quite a few and so a thorough search at home would be really appreciated. If you are able to help with our junior reader stock take places give Mrs Robertson a call next week.

Zone Athletics - Poroti School - Years 3 to 8

Our zone athletics will be held at Poroti School on Wednesday 11th November. This is an all-day event. As well as an opportunity for our children to improve their athletics skills, this is an opportunity for them to connect with children from local schools. The top place-getters also earn spots into the Whangarei Athletics Championships.

The children will travel by bus, but please let us know if you would like to transport your children.

Please note that there will not be regular classes on this day for year 5 to 8 students. Attendance for year 3 and 4 students is optional, and classes will run at school for those year 3 and 4 students who do not attend. Please return consent forms to school as soon as possible.

Pubertal Change Booklets 2020 - Year 6s

These booklets were issued today. These will have greater relevance to some children than others, some may have questions now, while others will show little interest at this time. We suggest that you ... take a look at the booklet yourself ... that you then allow your child to put it somewhere safe for future reference ... that you are available if they have questions. Please let us know if we can help in any way.

Pathways for year 6 students entering our year 7 & 8 programme next year

While all Year 7 & 8 programmes contain elements of Cambridge, we are keen to place students in pathways which best align with their current and future potential. In short, because the Cambridge Programme can be quite challenging, we want to get initial placements right (although changes down the track are sometimes made).

Mrs Donaldson will co-ordinate the placement process and, as part of this process, will also meet with previous teachers, and review the achievement (and other) data we have in our system. Parents are also invited to contribute to pathway decisions. Careful placement will help ensure that our year 8 students are very well prepared for year 9.

We will have three year 7 and 8 classes next year, and have advertised only two places for out of zone students at this level to keep class numbers as low as possible.

Input to year 7 placement decisions

Pathway decisions will be made some time in the week beginning 16 November. Parents of year 6 students who would like to have input into these decisions are invited to make an appointment with Mrs Donaldson. We anticipate these discussions will take around 20 minutes per child. If you would like the opportunity to have input into placement decisions please email Mrs Donaldson on ... kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz preferably by 9 November please.

Tennis Competition - 4 November

A reminder that parents are required to transport and supervise their own children please or to prearrange delegation of these responsibilities to another attending parent. Any questions to Mrs Donaldson.

Home Gardens

By now your seedlings should be well underway. Don't panic if you have had a few mishaps. As the weather warms up, the seeds will germinate much faster and you still have time to replant if need be.

Next week we will be sending out Consent form to visit forms for parents to fill in for the judges.



Home Garden Diaries

Garden Diaries are due to the school office by **Thursday 19th November** at the latest.

School lunches from 'Hole in One' Cafe

From next week on school lunches can be ordered and paid online. Please see the inlay with this newsletter how to order a school lunch. Orders have to be in by 8am Thursday morning. If you have any delivery queries you can call 'Hole in One' directly on 0800 565 565.

High School Orientation days

Whangarei Girls High School & Kamo High School on Friday 13th November

Whangarei Boys High School - Tuesday the 24th November

Parents need to transport their own child(ren).

2020 Self-Review

If you would like to know more about this process, or even to have some input, a meeting has been scheduled for Thursday 19 November 3:15 pm (Kevin's office) where we will discuss the self-review process and throw around, and receive, ideas. If you would like to attend please email Kevin and we will book you in.

Alternatively, Kevin is highly available by appointment.

Requests for Term Contributions / Events Fees

... will be emailed today, issued next week. Please contact Paula if you have any queries about these. Term Contributions are optional, but encouraged. Events fees are a legitimate fee for non-compulsory events from which children can be exempt on request. We are more than happy to agree on a time payment option which works for you if this is helpful ... just drop by!

Finally

Thank you again for your support on Calf Club Day, and thank you to the sponsors of this day. We try to keep this day as traditional as possible because it reminds us that we are a country school, and it is good to be a country school. The traditions (in some cases going back a hundred years or more) remind us of where we have come from, and remind us that some things are worth preserving. At a time when traditions are being overturned at breakneck speed, it is kind of nice to suspend judgment for a time, and just enjoy things the way earlier generations have enjoyed them.

Regards, *Nga Mihi*

Kevin Trehwella

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