

# Newsletter 2021

# Term 1

# Week 4

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

## A huge thank you

... to our Parents Support Group and all its helpers for your work in advance of our forthcoming Trail Bike Day. You guys are awesome  
... to Mr Delemare and his support team for organising this week's duathlon events  
... to those parents helping out with our Surf Lifesaving days  
... to those parents who helped out with this week's swimming trials  
... to those who "liked" our recent post on former student Leila Nicholson  
... to those parents whose kind comments to Mr J in acknowledgement of his Master's Degree

## Individual and Team Duathlons

Congratulations to all of those children who participated in this week's Individual and Team Duathlon. Great events. Results were as follows.

## Triadic Conferences (parent / teacher / student interviews)

The above are scheduled for 9 and 10 March - the **online bookings screen is open**. This is a chance for you and your child (optional for year 1 children) to be heard and to hear some first impressions of how their year is unfolding.

**To book your interview time** Please book online via the following website

- [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) and enter the event code of **r96pw**

Please note that bookings are allocated on a first in basis and so don't delay.

**Early Buses** - early notice that buses will run 30-40 minutes early on 9 & 10 March because of parent interviews. Parents who transport their children by car are asked to pick them up at 2.30 pm please on these days. The exception to this is the Kamo bus will still depart school at 3.50pm

(Please note that bus drop off times can vary from the usual on these days due to unpredictable bus loadings).

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by these changes.

## Interview nights

Please help by ...

- ... being on time
- ... moving on the bell
- ... jotting down any questions beforehand
- ... thinking about one significant area for growth for your child.

## Duathlon results

Individual	Boys Intermediate	Girls Intermediate	Boys Senior	Girls Senior
1 <sup>st</sup>	Cian G.	Hannah P.	Isabell A.	Dane G.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tyler C.	Niamh H.	LeArli J-N	Corbett R.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Liam P.	Alena G.	Maisey E.	Ben D.

Team	Intermediate	Senior
1 <sup>st</sup>	Liam P.-Caleb V. - Ashton H.	Noah-Van-Luke O.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	George W-C-James T.-Levi B.	Isabell A. -Dane G.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Connor - Jake - Lockie	Koby-Corbett-Thomas W.

## School Swimming Sports

Please keep 4 March (years 3 to 8), and 5 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 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

### 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

## Junior School Swimming Sports

You are invited to our special Junior School Swimming Sports for years 1 and 2 starting at 1:30pm on **Friday 5th March**. Please note this is a different day to the year 3-8 swimming sports. We are looking forward to having lots of fun and celebrating how much the children have improved in swimming this term. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Zone Swimming Sports

The six fastest swimmers in this week's swimming trials will be entitled to represent the school at the forthcoming Zone Swimming Sports (to be held at Kokopu School - 8 March). Consent forms will be sent home this coming Monday or Tuesday. Any questions to Mrs Donaldson please.

## Matarau School Trial Ride - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March

We need your help on the day! Please contact Lisa [lryan@matarau.school.nz](mailto:lryan@matarau.school.nz) if you are able to help out with all sort of jobs.



### Headlice Inspections

Parents are asked to check their children's hair weekly please and to respond immediately in the event of infestation.

### Players of the day for Basketball round 1

Matarau Crushers = Eli T

Matarau Magics = Lachlan S

Matarau Mavericks = Isaac D

### 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) is 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 2021

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.

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

**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).

### Sunhats

We are super pleased with the high level of compliance with our sunhat policy. Just a small suggestion. If children have a home/weekend sunhat as well as their school one, the school sunhat can remain in their schoolbag. This way it would be much less likely to be forgotten in the busyness of the morning. Just a suggestion.

### 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).*

### **Lunches & Sushi**

Lunch orders need to be in by 8am on Thursday morning. You can order online [www.lunchonline.co.nz](http://www.lunchonline.co.nz) or ring 0800 565 565. Every Friday you can order Sushi.

### **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.

### **Finally**

We can confirm that our overarching virtue for 2021 is CONSCIENTIOUSNESS. You may not know that conscientiousness is one of the single greatest determinants of life success, second only to intelligence. While intelligence is largely set, conscientiousness is somewhat subject to environmental influences, including the teaching of requisite skills, role modelling, expectations etc. So it makes sense for us to invest time where it is most likely to improve long term outcomes for children. Shortly we will send you some material with a request to support our efforts at home. If we are all speaking the "same language" our chances of success are greatly multiplied. Throughout the year we will work on a number of supporting virtues that closely relate to conscientiousness. So please join us for the journey. More to follow.

Kevin Trehwella  
Principal

*"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**

**Indoor bowling** starts in the Ruatangata Hall Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of March at 7:30pm. Need to wear flat shoes. For more information ring Allen on 4350141 or Ben 4351570

**Key Functions**, ones that empower your child. This family-friendly workshop hosted by **Dyslexia PLUS, Whangarei**.

1 Adult and 1 child (8 or older) combos are invited to this 2 hour introductory workshop on the 8 executive functions that can transform 'I can't' to 'I CAN'. This will be led by RTLB Janet Stowell who has written the book 'The Executive Function Toolkit for Classroom Teachers'.

**Saturday 27 February, 10-noon, Whangarei Women's Club Rust Ave.** \$15 per combo. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/4ecqjrw2> by 23 February.