

Newsletter Term 1 week 6 2021

Thank you

- ... To those parents who helped out with our Surf Life Saving Trip this week
- ... To those parents who helped with Kokopu Swimming
- ... To those who attended our swimming sports - in spite of the weather

People of the Week

- ... The Parent Support Group for their hard work over many months preparing for this weekend's Trail Bike.
- ... Mrs Donaldson for many additional hours this week invested in the organisation of school, zone and interschool swimming events.



A HUGE thank you to all of the parents and grandparents that came to support our Y3-8 Swimming Sports yesterday. All of our students showed great character, especially our Y5-8's, who battled on through challenging weather!

We were unable to announce, and present certificates to our overall champions yesterday. We have scheduled an assembly for this coming Monday at 2.30pm and will be presenting these certificates. We welcome any parents or grandparents that would like to come along and share this occasion with us.

Congratulations to our following champions:

Senior Boys

- 1st Place - Ben Donaldson
- 2nd Place - Luke O'Donnell
- 3rd Place - Van Leith

Senior Girls

- 1st Place - Summer Curnow
- 2nd Place - Isabell Attwood
- 3rd Place - Summer Dackers

Intermediate Boys

- 1st Place - Tyler Curnow
- 2nd Place - Flynn Perkins
- 3rd Place - Connor Burgin

Intermediate Girls

- 1st Place - Tia Welsh
- 2nd Place - Hannah Perris
- 3rd Equal - Carla Lanigan, Samara Walker, Bella Postlewaight

Junior Boys

- 1st Place - Jacob Attwood
- 2nd Place - Zac Burgin
- 3rd Place - Braxton Alexander

Junior Girls

- 1st Place - Katrina Walker
- 2nd Place - Ellie Curnow
- 3rd Place - Adyn Gibbs

Matarau School Trial Ride - This Sunday 14th March

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

A huge thank you to all the Trial Ride sponsors



Parent-Teacher Interviews

A huge thank you to those parents who made it along to interviews this week. Staff have been very encouraged by your feedback, and by your commitment to partnership. If you were unable to make it along on the designated interview nights, please remember that staff are highly available by appointment.

Sponsors 2021

This week we announced (via our Facebook page) a revamped group of sponsors and some changes to the way we manage sponsorship. A huge thank you to our sponsors. Mostly sponsors are motivated by a desire to help out, they have a strong sense of community, and want to make a positive difference. If you get a chance, please patronise their businesses and recommend them to others.

Interschool Swimming Sports - Wednesday the 17th March

Best wishes to our zone swimmers. Children have been entered in their respective events. Parents are reminded that they are responsible for transport and supervision for their own child on this day. Any questions to Mrs Donaldson please.

Reducing the spread of illness - a co-ordinated response

Bacterial and viral infections are an unfortunate fact of life. If we are to minimize the effect of these on our school we need to work together. This week staff have been reminding students ...

1. To wash their hands with soap and water for a minimum 20 seconds after they have used the toilet and before eating, and to spend 20 seconds thoroughly drying their hands afterwards. We are also working to make sure that liquid soap and paper towels are available to all students.
2. To cough or sneeze into their elbow.

You can help by reinforcing these two key messages at home. It would be super helpful if you could view and discuss either of the videos attached ... especially with younger children.

- Teaches hand washing technique (UK NHS): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeIWLnEg>
- Hand washing happy birthday (UK NHS): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aGJNspLRdrc>

3. **If your child has a cough, regular sneezing, a runny nose or temperature (38 degrees or above), diarrhea or vomiting you MUST keep them at home please.** We suggest that you arrange a "plan B" in the event that your child is sick and you need a caregiver. We have a duty to each other to adhere to whatever measures minimize transmission of illness to others. If your child arrives with any of the above symptoms, we may need to put them in isolation and call you to pick them up. If in doubt, always err on the side of caution. Thank you in anticipation.

JUMPFEST FLIP OUT

Tickets \$20 available at school office. Friday 26th March or Friday 9th April 6-7.30pm

Headlice

Regular checks by all parents help to greatly to delay the reappearance of headlice, and reduces the overall use of insecticidal shampoos. So thank you for your diligence here, with a combined effort we can usually stay well on top of this problem. If you have recurrent problems, we are more than happy to put you in touch with a public health nurse.

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.

Needing Guidance With Devices

Mr Delemare is happy to answer questions or to help with any presenting issues.

If you do not have security / filter / monitoring of your child's internet access it is critical that you set something up soon. Feel free to contact the school if you would like an appointment to discuss this or related matters with Mr Delemare.

School Gate

It is critically important to the safety of children that you close the school gate please on arrival or departure from school please. Thank you.

Pick up of Children

1. Where possible parents are asked to pick their children up from the bottom bus bay or upper carpark (in the former case children are asked to wait by Room 13, heading down when they sight your car). This is a dangerous stretch of road and we request that all parents assist us to minimise risks.
2. If dropping children off in the upper car park please note the designated drop off zone.

Please do not park in the zone and move on as quickly as you safely can.

3. If you have made arrangements for somebody else to pick your child up from school, the office must be advised beforehand. Any visitors to the school should report to the office first.



4. Parents of non-bus children are asked to pick their children up by 3:20PM (or later by arrangement with the School Office).

We would be especially grateful to hear from parents able to help with ...

... preparation of Monday lunches (beans and noodles) ... from around 11:30 to 12:45. Not too onerous but a good fund-raiser. Please give Paula a call if you can help. Even if we roster you.

... people able to cover library books, freeing our librarian for other tasks. This can be at any time that works for you. Once trained you can do this from home.

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.

International Schools Competitions

Over time interest in these programmes is diminishing. We know that children (and parents) lead busy lives, and it is not always easy to squeeze in the recommended practice papers. Further, these competitions are now moderated within the school, and are not sent offshore for marking and ranking, this means that our moderation process is not as accurate as it once was as we not have access to aggregated data. Having said this, and within the limitations specified above, we are willing to run this competition again for those who are keen, and who are willing to supervise two practice papers at home each week over an approximately six-week period. So, if are keen for your child to be involved please email Miranda in our school office next week at admin2@matarau.school.nz

Lunches

Lunch orders need to be in by 8am on Thursday morning. You can order online www.lunchonline.co.nz or ring 0800-565 565. Every Friday Lunchonline can deliver Sushi to school.

Scholastic

The new Scholastic book club is out. Please send all orders to the office or online by 19th of March.

Finally

Last week we told you about our music teacher, Mrs Slykerman, and the work she is doing in classes and with focus groups. This week we want to share a few words about Mr Johnson. Mr Johnson teaches in the senior school for two days a week, for the remaining days he is our science and technology teacher. Mr Johnson goes class to class motivating students (and teachers) to think through science and technology problems, to design solutions, develop working models. etc. Children do lots of hands on (practical) work which makes science and technology exciting and relevant. Maybe ask your children about some of the work they have done with Mr Johnson this year.

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)