

Pammy and Dave Neumann  
Long term supporters of  
Matarau School



Play Learn and Grow

# Newsletter

## Number 09

### 18 June 2021



Website [www.matarau.school.nz](http://www.matarau.school.nz)

Phone (09) 433 5823 Email – [admin@matarau.school.nz](mailto:admin@matarau.school.nz)

#### Thanks

... to those parents who visited our library this week...still open for visits

... to those parents helping with supervision at next week's marae visits.

#### Thank you Bunnings

The school would like to express its gratitude to Bunnings Whangarei for the generous donation of paint for children to use in art and craft activities. This donation was made without hesitation, and was even delivered to the school, all free of charge. So ... thank you Bunnings. Your very generous donation has been very much appreciated.

#### Persons of the week

... Alexis Judkins who was caught using amazing manners this week.

Thank you Alexis for being such a wonderful role model for all of us.

... Our Parents Support Group for the good work they continue to do to strengthen relationships and fund-raise for worthy projects.

... Aubree Dinsdale for great work habits this week. Great example!!

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

22 June	Marae trip Room 1-4
22 June	Rippa Rugby Tournament
29 June	Marae trip Room 5-7
30 June	Meeting of BoT
6 July	Matariki Day (More to follow)
9 July	Final day of term 2 (26 July - start of term 3)

#### New virtue – KINDNESS ... Please ...

... discuss this with your children at home and revisit often

... talk about how you practise kindness in your life

... set some kindness goals

... let us know of instances so we can share these

#### Mid-year Interviews

... have been scheduled for 2 - 4 August (week 2 of term 3).

Interviews for children in years 1 to 6 children can be booked on either 2 or 3 of August. Interviews for children in years 7 and 8 can be booked on either 2,3 or 4 August. Booking will ideally need to be made before the end of this term. Booking information will be made available shortly. More information to follow.

#### Learning Support Programmes

If your child has been involved in any learning support programmes this year (this would include reading recovery, working with Mrs Marvin or Mrs Williams, working with an attached teacher aide, pastoral support etc), we would be keen to hear your thoughts on how they have (or have not) benefited from inclusion. Your feedback helps us to improve our programmes, and so please feel free to share by making an appointment with the staff member who has been working with them, or by emailing Kevin on [principal@matarau.school.nz](mailto:principal@matarau.school.nz)

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**Reminders**

**Calf Club** ... 21 October ... Calves are back in.

**Plastics** ... Please help by reducing plastic wrappings in lunches.

**Saturday Sport** ... Please remember to affirm and support coaches and managers often and to be overwhelmingly positive with the kids.

**Cambridge ... survey of former students**

*If your child has received an invitation to participate in our Cambridge survey, please encourage them to complete their survey as soon as possible. We remain very keen to hear from other former Cambridge students willing to take part but would need to hear from them by the start of next week. Willing students should contact Mrs Donaldson at [kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz](mailto:kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz). We have been getting great feedback from former students, and secondary schools, but want to identify any weak spots, and ensure our programmes are as well calibrated as possible. Thank you for your assistance!*

**Rippa Rugby**

A reminder that this tournament takes place 22 June. Please note that this will not be held at the Hora Hora Rugby Club Grounds as formerly advised but at the Kamo Rugby grounds. Thank you to the parents support team and best wishes to the teams.

**International Schools English and Maths Exams**

A reminder that the English exam is scheduled for **17 August** and the Maths exam for **31 August**.

Practice papers and marking sheets for the English Exam will be made available from Monday 28 June. Practice papers for the maths exam will be made available from 26 July.

**Whittaker's Chocolate Fundraiser**

Boxes of Chocolates were sent home today. Please ensure you receive these from your child and advise ASAP if you don't so we can follow up. All queries to [matarau.psg@gmail.com](mailto:matarau.psg@gmail.com). Thank you all so much for your support with this fundraising. We look forward to making a difference around our school together with our families and school community.

Parent Support Group mission... To support and connect our school community.

**You might be interested ...**

As you know, we have taken a slight diversion from conscientiousness toward kindness as our virtue focus for the next month. This coincides with work we are doing with other schools (see our Kahui ako documents sent two weeks back), staff professional development, and class discussions with children. We viewed this video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTsvSAItPqA> - at a recent staff meeting, and thought you might like it too, and that you might like to watch this with your children. It's really about leading out, giving others the benefit of the doubt, practising forgiveness, and respecting others, even when we disagree with them. It's about transcending self, in order to connect in genuine ways with others. We are emphasizing with children the inner joy that we feel when we lift others up, when we put others first, and when we refuse to let our differences divide us.

At a time when people seem so antagonistic toward each other, when people have stopped listening, when differences are emphasised over commonalities, this is a reminder of a much higher calling. The question is always whether we are up to that calling, the way we answer this question has huge implications. We hope you enjoy this.

### Cambridge Programme... expressions of interest 2022

If you know of anyone wanting their children to have an exceptional start to secondary school, perhaps suggest that they contact the school to discuss our Cambridge /Senior School Programme, or that they visit our website for more information. Our year 7 and 8 programmes are based on what is arguably the world's best known and respected international curriculum (overseen and continually updated by Cambridge University), we also have an extensive options programme (including extension activities and foreign languages), a science room, teacher to pupil ratios significantly lower than that of urban schools, and much more. Our assessment is that our exiting year 8 students are around 12 months (or more) ahead of their peers on entry to secondary school and this is a massive advantage to them during the secondary settling period.

*Some people are paying \$25,000 over 2 years for a Cambridge education ... here it is free. Feel free to ask any secondary school teacher how our graduates cope in their first year at high school, and beyond.*

A limited number of out of zone places are likely to be available in 2022.

### Confirmation of Secondary School

Parents of year 8 children received a form asking for an indication of which secondary school their child is likely to attend in 2022. This helps us to ensure that you get the information you need as we approach information and enrolment time. Please give this some thought and return the form to the classroom teacher.

### Finally

The primary objective of our recent library promotion is to hook kids into reading. Please encourage reading at home. The research confirms what sensible people have known all along, that reading makes a huge difference to a child's overall learning experience, it impacts across the curriculum, it introduces kids to ideas and places they have never known before, it introduces us to new ways of thinking about things and, in ways we don't fully understand, it creates and strengthens neural connections. Maybe surprisingly, research seems to indicate that reading text from pages has significant advantages over text on a screen, there is something about holding a book, turning pages etc which makes a difference. So, maybe designate a reading time at home. Show that you are readers too, talk about each other's books, buy books as presents, and maybe turn off the devices. We are constantly restocking our library with new and engaging material, and so please work with your child to tap into this resource, and let us know if your child has a reading interest which is not currently being well met at school. Please let us know where we can help.

Nga mihi  
Kevin Trehwella  
PRINCIPAL

**We appreciate your support!**



### Matarau School last season Honey for sale

Honey is available at the school office. The price is **\$8** for an approx. 500g jar. Preferable transfer money into the school account or pay cash at the office.





**You are welcome to visit our amazing library.**



**Help Support our AIMS Hockey Team....**

**Wednesday 23rd June**



**ICECREAM SANDWICHES \$3**

**SAUSAGES \$2**

**BAKING \$1—\$2**



**Order yours now!**

**Presale orders being taken now for icecream and sausages**

**All will be available to also purchase on the day**

**Thank you for your support!**