

Matarau School Newsletter Term 4 Week 4 2021

12 November 2021

Thanks to

- ... Melissa and Gary Langley for mowing our running tracks.
- ... year 8 parents for assisting their children to purchase their 2021 leaving books.
- ... Parents assisting with weekly headlice checks at home
- ... Year 6 parents who have booked a Cambridge placement interview with Mrs Donaldson

Persons of the week

- ... Felicity and Molly for your contributions to the school over the periods of your practicum placements. We have much appreciated your keenness to help out and wish you well for your teaching careers.
- ... Mr Pattison who recently transitioned to full teacher registration after a 2 years post-graduation mentoring programme. This is a significant step in your career Blake. Congratulations!

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

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| Monday 15 November | Art Portfolios due for Art Scholarship |
| Monday 22 November | Staff Only Day |
| Wednesday 24 November | Meeting of Board of Trustees |
| Monday 10 December | Reports sent home |
| Tuesday 14 December | Colour Run (more to follow) |
| Wednesday 15 December | Final day of school 2021 |

Early notice that school will finish on midday on Wednesday the 15th December. Children attending on this day may be picked up or travel home on their usual bus. All buses will run approx. 3 hours earlier on that day. The Kamo bus will likely not run earlier on this day.

Art Scholarship (Years 4 to 8)

A reminder that portfolios will need to be submitted **by 3:00 pm Monday 15 November**.

ICAS PAPERS ENGLISH & MATHS

We are still missing some ICAS practice papers. If you borrowed some papers can you please return these to the office?

Reminders

... Sunhats each day please (and drink bottles also please)

... Please let us know if your plans change and your child will (or will not) be attending Matarau School next year.

... Headlice checks ... please check your children's hair weekly and respond where necessary

... Please return any outstanding cups and trophies by this coming Monday please.

... Please check at home for library books and readers (especially junior readers) send these along to school next week (really important as next week is stock take week).

... Please return netball skirts to the office.

Class Placements 2022

A great deal of thought goes into class placements at the end of each year. Lists go through several stages of refinement, and alternatives are weighed until we feel that we have got it right. We recognise the value of friendships, and classes are not streamed academically. The goal is always to achieve balance and fairness across, and within, rooms. We give no guarantees at all but, if you would like us to consider something, please email Kevin this weekend with your thoughts (principal@matarau.school.nz). We do not take requests for teachers unless under the most exceptional circumstances, but you might have thoughts on a critical friend, a less than ideal association, areas needing extension or consolidation etc. Your requests are always treated in confidence and are passed only to the senior teacher leading the placement process in each part of the school. The final decision must always be ours, simply because we have the wider lens, every decision ripples, and we must never advantage one child at the expense of another.

Input to year 7 placement decisions

Pathway decisions will be made some time in the week beginning 15 November. Parents of year 6 students who would like to have input into these decisions are invited to make an appointment with Mrs Donaldson. These appointments will be held via "google meet" sometime week beginning 15.11. 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 **MONDAY** please.

Staff Only Days

This is confirmation that a further Staff Only Day will be held on **Monday 22 November**. School will not be open for instruction on this day and buses will not run. As with our Staff Only Day last week, time will largely be spent in preparation for the implementation of the digital, science and technology curricula.

Parents of Year 8 Students

Please note that year 8 students received a book voucher this week to be put toward their year 8 leaving book. Thank you in anticipation for assisting them to select a suitable book. Please note that **leaving books are due back at school by 29 November**.

Prize Giving

Around the country, school prize givings are being done very differently this year. Along with other schools, we still want to acknowledge excellence and effort, and are keen to create a virtual prize

giving of sorts. Our policy is to publish non-portrait photos, only first names, and to use a private platform. We may use a YouTube link with access only by invitation, but inevitably we will need to trust all users not to share this, or to only share it with close family members e.g. grandparents. If you do not want your child's non-portrait photo (meaning not close up), their first name, and their special honour, being shared on a private YouTube link please advise Kevin next week (principal@matarau.school.nz). In the event that we do **NOT** have your consent your child would still receive their award, but it would not be shared publicly. **So ... if we do NOT hear from you we will assume we have your consent.**

REPEAT ORDER Calendar Art **Closing Monday the 22nd November**

You can order your child's art on the website www.kidsartworks.com
Please use our school code **KZ654**

Sunhats

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.

High School Orientation day

Kamo High School	Friday 12 th November
Whangarei Boys High School	Cancelled
Huanui College	Thursday 18 th November
Whangarei Girls High School	Cancelled

Parents need to transport their own child(ren).

Picking Children up early ...

... please advise the office (and not your child's teacher) if you need to pick your child up early. The office will fetch your child from their classroom at the requested time, and deliver them to the designated school gate for pick up.

Junior pick up

Just a gentle reminder that children departing early (2:40) should be picked up from the top carpark rather than the bus bay at the end of the day. This way we can supervise them all the way to you and be sure they are safe.

If you have any of the junior school's spare clothes at home, please could you send them back in? We have run out of pants and shorts.

Home Gardens

Hopefully all home gardens are now well underway. Remember that seedlings should be hardened off before planting into the garden. This involves putting your seedlings out during the day in a sheltered spot, and then bringing them in at night for a few days. Then leave them out at night for a few more days before planting into the garden. Once planted, feed with a seaweed feed (or soak pots in it before planting). This helps avoid transfer shock.

Home garden diaries will be due in on Thursday the 18th of November. This will allow us to get the dairies to the judges in time. Any students who have not received their diary (or have misplaced them), will need to see Mrs Burgin by the end of next week.

Please upload photos or share & receive gardening tips on our Facebook page if you can... www.facebook.com/matarauschoolhomegardens

Wellness for school

Remember please ...cough, runny nose, fever, headaches etc ... please keep your child at home and not return them to school for 48 hours after cessation of last symptom. Any doubts please consult your child's GP. Remember to have a care plan in place in case we request pick up from school.

Period products Year 6's

If your daughter needs any period products please contact the office and we will provide your daughter with them.

Pubertal Change Booklets 2020 - Year 6s

In the past, we have issued child-oriented pubertal change booklets to year 6 children to take home and discuss with their parents. If not today, these will be sent home next week.

Lunch orders

Remember you can order a nice warm lunch every Thursday or Friday Sushi. Orders need to be in on the day before 8am. Please visit the website www.lunchonline.co.nz for ordering.

Finally

The school (and board) have been working hard over recent weeks to ensure that Matarau School remains appropriately staffed to the end of the year, and into 2022. Recent weeks have been challenging, but we are on track. We value all of our teachers and support staff hugely. Without exception, they are passionate about their work, they care deeply about the children in their care, and they go the extra mile in ways often unseen. Staff who will not be with us in 2022 will be acknowledged when the time is right, and our desire is to accord them the thanks that they are due.

Nga mihi

Kevin Trehwella

PRINCIPAL

Community notices

Covid permitting, **Whangarei Record Fair** @ 116 Bank Street on the 27th November 2021, proudly supported by Creative Northland, ONEONESIX and Beagle Radio. It would be great if you are able to publicise this in any way, be it notice boards, newsletters, etc. Many thanks in advance.

Midgey is a 9 weeks old calf club lamb looking for a home. He will be fully vaccinated & weaned, is very quiet and friendly. He is great at trimming grass and giving cuddles. Please ring Rochelle 02102329575.