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# Newsletter

## Number 16

### 5 November 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

... Those parents who have supported with headlice inspections at home.  
... Those parents who have advised their intentions for next year, this is hugely helpful as we draft class lists for 2022.

#### Persons of the week

.... Those children who will receive ribbons or cups for Calf Club Events at our forthcoming virtual prize giving.

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

Thursday 11 November	Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme starts (whole school)
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

#### Staff Only Days

This is confirmation that 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. The school is required to take a requisite number of Staff Only days and the Board chose these days to provide long(er) weekends for families who might want to take advantage of this. Time will largely be spent in preparation for the implementation of the digital, science and technology curricula.

#### High School Orientation Days

Kamo High School	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> November - information is emailed with the newsletter
Whangarei Boys High School	<b>cancelled</b>
Huanui College	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> November
Whangarei Girls High School	<b>cancelled</b>

Parents need to transport their own child(ren).

#### ICAS PAPERS ENGLISH & MATHS

Please return any ICAS practice papers to the office next week.020

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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.

### REPEAT ORDER Calendar Art

You can order your child's art again on the following website

[www.kidsartworks.com](http://www.kidsartworks.com).

Please use our school code **KZ654**.

### 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.

### Art Scholarship (Years 4 to 8)

Art portfolios will need to be submitted by 3:00 pm Monday 15 November.

Please let your child's teacher know if your child needs any guidance.

### Pubertal Change Booklets 2021 - Year 6s

If you are the parent of a year 6 child, can you please advise the school office over the next two weeks if you would like to drop by to view a booklet, or you may like to pick your child's booklet up yourself? If we do not hear from you, all year 6 children will bring a booklet home at some stage soon.

### 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.

### Headlice Inspections

Due to covid restrictions, we are unable to schedule our customary term headlice inspection. As anticipated, these critters seem to be raising their heads again and so we would be hugely grateful if you could please ...

... check your child(ren's) hair tonight

... administer treatment as soon as possible if necessary

... monitor weekly moving forward and respond promptly in the event of infestation

We are always happy to connect you with a public health nurse if you are dealing with a persistent problem, or if you need advice. Headlice can afflict anyone, it does not discriminate and is no reflection on anyone.

**To avoid people needing to re-treat, it is important that we hit this at the same time. So ... please check tonight and treat within 48 hours if you can. If everyone does this, we can keep this at bay for the rest of the term.**

### **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.

### **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](mailto:kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz) preferably by 8 November please.

### **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 2022. So ... we are missing quite a few and so a thorough search at home would be really appreciated.

### **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.

### **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](http://www.lunchonline.co.nz) for ordering.

### **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.

### **Drink bottles**

... please ensure all children bring a drink bottle to school each day. We have processes for refilling these if required.

### **Period products Year 6's**

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

### **Sunhats**

A reminder that sunhats are compulsory in term 4. Please check that your child has their regulation navy blue Matarau School sunhat ready for next term. 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.

### **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 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](http://www.facebook.com/matarauschoolhomegardens)

### **Finally**

This is the time of year when teachers run assessments across their classes to get a sense of the progress that students have made (or have not made) over the course of the year. It is always a time of anticipation, even more so in light of the covid disruptions of recent times. To cut a long story short, in spite of a year full of repeated interruptions to schooling, pleasing gains are evident in the data we are seeing. More of this later.

Best for the weekend.

Nga mihi

Kevin Trehella  
PRINCIPAL

### **Community notices**

#### **Forever Home Wanted**

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.

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.



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