

Matarau School Newsletter Term 1 Week 4

Thank you to

...Parents who have diligently kept us informed of shifts in covid status. You have no idea how useful this has been in forward planning.

... Year 5 and 6 camp parents. Staff have waxed lyrical about how absolutely fantastic you were last week, how hard you worked, how great you with the kids, how supportive you were to staff THANKYOU!

... Our sponsors ... we will announce our new sponsor team soon.

People of the Week

- Camp parents
- Ben and Kieran
- Paula and Miranda for work behind the scenes helping compile covid data stats
- Those supporting the trail ride ... awesome work!

Congratulations

To our school tennis team for their sportsmanship and achievements at this week's interschool tennis tournament.

A special congratulations to Ben and Kieran who took out first place.

Super proud of you all.



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

7/9 March	Interview zoom meetings (optional)
8 March	First meeting of BoT for 2022 (may be a zoom meeting)
<i>Postponed</i>	<i>Individual Duathlon Event</i>
<i>Postponed</i>	<i>Team Duathlon Event</i>
13 March	Trail Bike Ride
14 March	Mid-point cohort entry
22 March	Weetbix Challenge
29 March	Hearing and Vision Testing
14 April	Final day for term 1
2 May	First day of Term 2

Duathlon - Postponed

With regret, we have made the decision to postpone the duathlon to later in the year due to the number of children likely to not be in attendance next week. We want maximum participation in this event and so, out of fairness to students, we feel a postponement is the best way forward. We apologize for this second postponement but we see maximum participation in this event as our priority.

Virtue - Humility

We are very excited to introduce our 2022 commencement virtue ... HUMILITY

Please find support material attached and take the time ...

... to discuss humility with your children

... talk about how/where you exercise humility in your life

... celebrate examples

... set goals

... revisit in the coming weeks

Humility seems a tricky virtue to define, but it's worth the effort. Maybe explain to kids that being humble helps us to be kind to others because it reminds us that we are not perfect either.

Masks for visitors

A reminder please that masks are to be worn by all visitors to the school.
Visits are for drop off and pick up and otherwise by prior appointment please.

Disability car park

Please keep the disability car park clear for those who need it.

Corona Virus ... Omicron etc.

1. Advise the school as soon as you can if you or your child have covid
2. Please keep us in the loop
3. Let us know if there is any way that we can help

If you would like information on the covid vaccine for children please email Paula on admin@matarau.school.nz (we have a number of hard copies we can send home on request).

Term 1 Interviews

Term 1 interviews exist as an opportunity to discuss how children have settled, agree on some common goals, and to allow for the exchange of information. This is a time to let your child's teacher know of any areas of concern, and to highlight areas you would like them to work on. As omicron could be entering peak any time soon we have, **reluctantly**, realized that we will need to manage term 1 interviews differently this year.

This week teachers worked with students on possible areas for focus in 2022. **These were recorded on an interview sheet, and were sent home this week**, so, if you have not done so, please ...

... add your thoughts,

... make any changes you would like to make.

... and return this form to school on Monday

... if you did not receive your form please email your child's teacher

GOOGLE MEETS ARE ENTIRELY OPTIONAL. Meetings will be of 15 minutes duration, and your child's teacher will confirm your time, and will email your invite just prior to your interview. Please adhere strictly to times as interviews will be back to back.

Teachers e-mail addresses

Some parents are asking for their teacher's classroom e-mail address. This is really easy to work out by using the teacher's first name initial followed by their surname and then add @matarau.school.nz (example Andrew Johnson ajohnson@matarau.school.nz or Jayde Jongkind jjongkind@matarau.school.nz)

Yummy stickers

We are starting collecting Yummy stickers again. Please collect the Yummy cut-out labels from bags (each cut-out label is worth 10 stickers) and individual Yummy apple stickers for our share of the \$200,000 free DG Sport sports gear prize pool. Yummy apples are available from New World, PAK'nSAVE and participating Four Square stores (and some Countdowns). The more you collect, the more sports gear we get. Please see Mrs Easterbrook in room 2 for more sticker/label sheets. All started or completed sheets can be returned to Mrs. Easterbrook.

Year 7/8 Immunisations - HPV & Boostrix

The public health nurses who run the school-based vaccinations for HPV and Boostrix, have been seconded to help with the Covid-19 response which could delay and potentially suspend the normal roll out in of these vaccinations in school. They have encouraged parents/caregivers to take their children to get vaccinated by their GP when possible.

Headlice

In order to contain and minimise the spread of headlice in the absence of term checks, parents will be advised where there is infestation in their child's task with a request that they check and treat where necessary within

48 hours. If we all work on concert then we have a greater chance of staying on top of this and children are less likely to be re-infected (and we can minimise exposure to chemical treatments). Please let us know if we can help.

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).

Omicron Management moving forward

In response to questions this week, we have decided to further explain our plans for the omicron escalation phase. We know that many of you are very keen to be regularly updated. Our guess (only a guess) is that we may need to kick some of this into gear within the next week or so.

A relatively small number of our students are close contacts, and are currently in isolation. To this point, we have been very lucky.

We have four primary tools as we move forward, which will enable us to manage an escalation in cases (not necessarily implemented in this order).

1. At some point we will call on those who have indicated home learning **as a preference** to keep their children at home until case numbers drop (these parents will have received an email today)
2. We will call on those who have indicated they could **if necessary** keep their children at home until case numbers drop (these parents will receive an email shortly)
3. If covid **appears about to impact a specific class (or part of the school) disproportionately** we will give the parents of other children in this class (or part of the school) timely notice of the option the keep their children at home. This will be your call.
4. If staff numbers are adversely impacted we may need to **combine classes and create new class bubbles or have alternate days at school**
5. Coming out the other end we may ask parents to keep their children at home beyond the 10 days if there are staffing issues, **and if this works for these parents.**

Parents can help by being prepared for these measures which **seem inevitable at some stage very soon.** A sincere thank you, again, to those wonderful parents who have promptly advised us of a pending isolation period in their home. **Please continue to advise promptly if anyone is isolating at home.**

And remember please that under no circumstances should a symptomatic child be sent to school.

Final Word

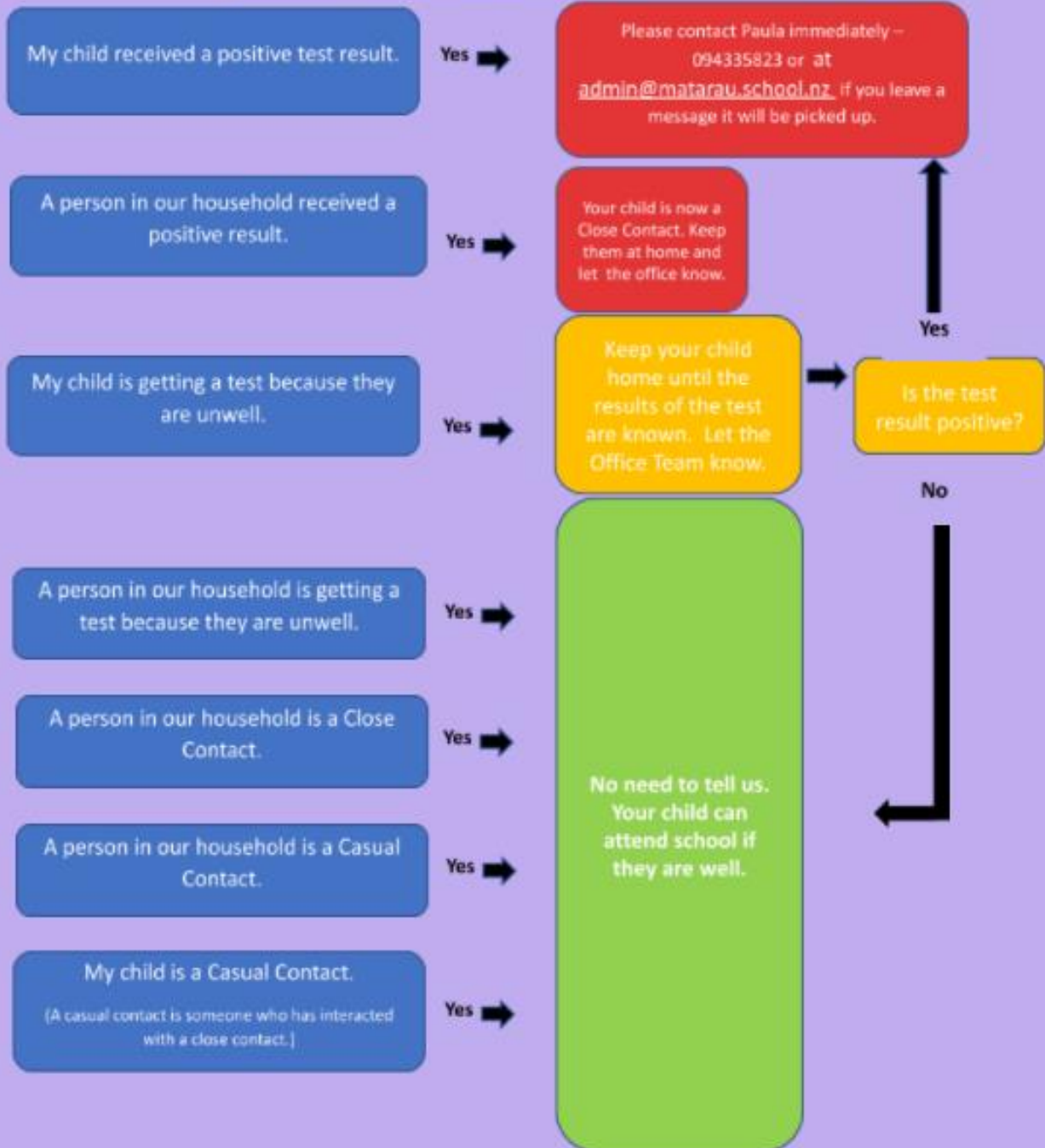
Did you know that you have amazing kids, they never cease to impress us. Thank you for the opportunity to walk this part of their journey with them. Our thoughts are with those managing isolation. We are with you!

Nga mihi

Kevin Trehella
PRINCIPAL

COVID-19: What do I need to do . . . ?

This flowchart is designed to help you understand what is required. If you have questions, please contact the School Office – admin@matarau.school.nz 094335823



Office contact: admin@matarau.school.nz | 09 433 5823 |



13 March 2022



MATARAU SCHOOL
TRAIL RIDE

13th March 2022

For more information see website www.mataraufundraising.co.nz

Facebook page / event [Matarau School Trail Ride] or Silver Bullet

Pre registration / purchase of tickets available online with early bird discount.

Event limited to 600 riders (6 x 100 zones).

8:00am registration opens, 9:00am ride opens, 2:30pm last riders out.

Coffee caravan, bbq breakfast, lunch and cold drinks for sale
all day - cash only.

Pricing on the day - **CASH ONLY** (Early Bird discount available online only)

Main track \$35, Intermediate track \$25, Kids track \$5 donation into Rescue Helicopter bucket

Side x Sides welcome - see online for pricing structure.

Thank you to our amazing sponsors



Humility



What is Humility?

When you are humble you don't act as if you are more important than other people. You are happy to serve others and think other people's needs are important. You don't expect others or yourself to be perfect. You don't criticize others or yourself. You admit mistakes and learn from them. Sometimes mistakes are our best teachers.

Why Practice It?

Without humility, people act as if what they have to say and do is much more important than what anyone else is saying or doing. With humility, instead of comparing ourselves to others, we are grateful for what we can do. Humility helps you to keep learning. It helps you to treat others as equals, different yet equal. Humility can keep you free from prejudice.



How Do You Practice It?

To practice humility, don't worry about impressing other people. Just be yourself and do your best. Instead of worrying over failures or mistakes, be eager to learn from them. Ask for help when you need it. When you are wrong, admit it, and then change your behavior. Strive to be a little better today than you were yesterday. When you do something wonderful, humility reminds you to be thankful instead of boastful.

The Virtues Project



What would Humility look like if...

- You notice that you can run much faster than your friend?
- You notice that your friend usually gets better marks than you?
- You make a big mistake and hurt someone's feelings?
- Your brother does a chore and you think he could have done a better job?
- You have a habit you feel ashamed of?
- You have a problem that you cannot solve?

Signs of Success

Congratulations! You are practicing Humility when you...

- Consider the needs of others as important as your own.
- Apologize and make amends when you hurt others.
- Learn from your mistakes and keep changing for the better.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Are doing your best just to do it, not to impress anyone.
- Are grateful instead of boastful.

Affirmation

I am humble. I learn from my mistakes. I do not judge others or myself. I value my ability to keep growing and learning.

Activities with Humility



Humble Tea

Have a tea party and have people take turns serving one another.



Virtues Reflection Questions

- What is one of the “best” mistakes you ever made – one that taught you the most.
- How can you show humility when you hurt someone else’s feelings?
- Name three ways to make a true apology.
- What helps you to accept your mistakes and move on?
- Name two things you could do to be of service to someone in your family.
- What does it feel like to be criticized and blamed?
- What does it feel like to be around someone who always thinks they know more than you?
- What does it feel like to hide a mistake you have made?
- What would give you the courage to admit it and make amends?



Drawing Humility

Draw a picture of a team of athletes who have won a game, being thankful and sharing their happiness together.



Poster Points

- Free to be you and me.
- Learning life’s lessons.
- Looking for the teachable moments.
- Willing to keep learning.



Quotable Quotes

“The life which is not examined is not worth living.” Plato

“No one is better than anyone else, and no one really believes that.” Tolbert McCarroll

“We come nearest to the great when we are great in humility.” Rabindath Tagore

“Humility is to make a right estimate of one’s self.” Charles Haddon Spurgeon

“The first test of a really great man is his humility.” John Ruskin