

Newsletter reminders and updates Term 1 Week 6

A very special thanks

... to everyone who helped with the Trail Bike last weekend and Lisa for organising this very successful fundraising event.

... to the parents that helped with preparing the hangi for the Enviro-day.

... to parents and grandparents that came to the Enviro-day. It was a very successful day. Thank you for the support and also a big thank you to Mrs Alexander & Mrs Gunson for organising this day.

... to the Trail Bike Sponsors



People of the week

... needs to be all students this week for rising to the occasion on Enviro day

... those students who represented us this week at the Interschool Swimming Sports (and to the parent support team)

Some awesome feedback this week from Northland Bus Company

"Your students are just so amazing to take away, they have the most beautiful manners, they listen to the bus rules and popped all their rubbish in the bags provided. Always a pleasure to take away"

Term Calendar

21 March	Surfing Y8
29 March	Individual Duathlon
30 March	Team Duathlon
6 April	Final day for term 1
26 April	Commencement of term 2

Homestay enquiries - last change

As you will likely know Matarau School is licensed to enrol international students. We typically specialise in students from South Korea, although have hosted students from numerous other countries.

In July of this year, we will host 5 Korean students for the following term (a ten-week period), and will need homestays for these students.

The Code of Practice requires that ...

- ... Homestay carers (and anyone residing in their home) must be police vetted.
- ... Visiting students must have a room and study desk (or table) of their own
- ... And we are required to visit your home prior to approval to check bathroom and kitchen facilities and to ensure the host home is suitable

We are currently negotiating the weekly rate with an agent and will confirm this soon.

Home carers would get the full support of our own pastoral staff, and are generally required to provide a typical kiwi home experience (nothing out of the ordinary is expected), to involve these children in family life to the extent this is possible/appropriate, and to maintain a friendly and supportive environment for them.

We have both boys and girls looking for placements, and they range in age from 11 through 13 (Years 6 to 8)

They will spend weekends with their agent, which gives families a break and an opportunity to do their own things as a family.

If you think you might be interested, can you please email Kevin this week and we will take it from there. If approved, you would remain on our database for future placements.

This can be a great experience for a family, an opportunity to experience someone from another culture, to make friends, establish enduring connections, and to save up a little cash for something special.

Don't hesitate to phone or email me with any questions.

Existing Sponsors

... If you are interested in continuing sponsorship in 2023 please return your sponsorship confirmation forms and an indication of your preferred buddy room to Paula next week. Thank you to those who have already done so.

Coaches and Team Managers

Already people are gearing up for winter sports. As in earlier years, we will be very much dependent on parents putting their hands up to support as coaches or managers. If approached, please give this serious thought. Without parental support we will not be able to register teams. Much more to follow.

Teachers e-mail address

These are all listed on the Matarau School website. However, you can work them 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)

Responsibilities Virtue

Thank you for spending time with your children discussing our Rights and Responsibilities Sheet.

Just a reminder to spend time going over the RESPONSIBILITIES virtue sheet sent home last week and to gradually unfold your discussions over the weeks ahead ...

... talk about where you exercise responsibility in your lives

... why being responsible is important

... maybe help them set a "responsibility goal" ... perhaps packing or unpacking their school bag, keeping their room tidy, doing the dishes, sticking to home work time. Your call!

Please let us know of any special gains made at home so that we can celebrate and reinforce at school. Maybe we can even put some in our newsletter.

Headlice

Please check your children's hair weekly so that we keep infestation levels as low as possible through to term's end. Thank you.



School Duathlon Events - 29 & 30 March

... For year 4-8 students, will take place as follows ...

Individual Event - Wednesday 29 March ... 12.50-1.40pm

Team Event - Thursday 30 March ... 12.50-1.40pm

Students will need bike, helmet & appropriate clothing. Parents welcome to support the racers. We can store bikes in the school hall between events. Any questions in the run up to this event should be directed to Mr Delemare please. If your child has not yet registered for these events they can do this themselves or via their classroom teacher.

School gates

The school gates help us to keep children safe. If you are entering, or exiting, the school grounds during school hours it is important to ensure you close these gates after you. If you are dropping a child at school after the morning bell please be aware that they may not be tall enough to open these gates on their own.

Early Notice - 24 April

Some of you may know that a new curriculum is on its way soon, to be phased in over the next couple of years. Schools are required to undertake professional development in preparation for this, and the government has provided staggered days across the coming months for this purpose. These days must be used within specified timeframes. To minimise inconvenience to parents, most schools in Whangarei have nominated Monday 24.4 (between last day of the forthcoming holiday and ANZAC Day, which is 25.4). Accordingly, please note that that school will be closed on 24.4 and buses will not run on that day. The first day of school for term 2 will be Wednesday 26 April.

Final Word

A huge thank you to parents and whanau for your support and encouragement this week. **We were overwhelmed with the level of support for the Trail Bike Event on Sunday, and the Enviro Day on Tuesday.** We can assure you that board, staff and children greatly appreciated you joining us on these days, and especially appreciated your encouragement of the children and your positive feedback at and after the event.

Nga mihi

Kevin Trehella

PRINCIPAL

Responsibility



What is Responsibility?

Being responsible means that others can depend on you. You are willing to be accountable for your actions. When things go wrong and you make a mistake, you make amends instead of excuses. When you are responsible, you keep your agreements. You give your best to any job. Responsibility is the ability to respond ably. It is a sign of growing up.

Why Practice It?

When you take responsibility for your own actions, others can trust you. When people are not responsible, they break their promises, fail to do what they said they would do and let people down. People who make excuses instead of amends keep making the same mistakes. When you are responsible, you get things done with excellence.



How Do You Practice It?

When you agree to do something, like homework, watching a younger child, or a job around the house, you take it as your responsibility. You don't agree to do things which are too hard, or that you don't really have time for. When you make a mistake, you don't get defensive. You learn from it and you fix it. You are ready and willing to clear up misunderstandings.



What would Responsibility look like if...

- You have a regular job at home and you would rather watch TV or read?
- You have a lot of homework to do but a friend just came to play?
- You just broke something in your friend's house but no one saw you?
- You promised a friend you would get together after school, but then remembered you have a music lesson?
- You are watching your little sister in a store while your mother finishes shopping?
- You notice your parents working hard to keep the house clean?

Signs of Success

Congratulations! You are practicing Responsibility when you...

- Take your agreements seriously
- Respond ably by doing things to the best of your ability
- Are willing to do your part
- Admit mistakes without making excuses
- Are willing to make amends
- Give your best to whatever you do

Affirmation

I am responsible. I give my best to all that I do and keep my agreements. I learn from my mistakes. I am willing to make amends.

Activities with Responsibility



Being Responsible

Make a list of ways you can do your part to help with the responsibilities in your home.

Fill in the Blanks

When I do my chores I am being H_____ and R_____.

When I admit mistakes I am showing the virtues of H_____ and R_____.

When I make amends, that is a J____ way to be.



Virtues Reflection Questions

- What is the responsible way to respond when you make a mistake?
- What is the Teachable Moment (the virtue to be learned) when someone:
 - forgets their homework?
 - doesn't do a chore they have promised to do?
 - tells a secret they promised not to tell?
 - broke a promise to bring back a borrowed toy?
- What are some ways to make amends for these mistakes?
- What does it feel like inside when you do something wrong?
- What does it feel like inside when you admit responsibility?
- What are some things you are responsible for now that you weren't when you were younger?
- What is a teacher responsible for? What is a student responsible for?



Drawing Responsibility

Draw a picture of yourself doing something with excellent responsibility.



Poster Points

- The ability to respond ably.
- At my best.
- A Promise Keeper.



Quotable Quotes

"Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood." Helen Keller

"Life doesn't require that we be the best – only that we try our best." H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

"To live is to change. To be perfect is to have changed often." Henry Cardinal Newman

"We have to accept the consequences of every deed, word, and thought throughout our lifetime." Elisabeth Kubler Ross

"My life is an influence on every life mine touches. Whether I realize it or not, I am responsible and accountable for that influence." Ron Baron

"A man can fail many times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame somebody else." Anonymous