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Newsletter

Number 23

20 October 2023



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone (09) 433 5823 Email – admin@matarau.school.nz



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Dear parents and whanau,

This week, we received an email from the Hira Gage, Director of Education for Tai Tokarau, congratulating our school on having 90% attendance for week 1 of term 4. This really is something to celebrate! Thank you for ensuring your children are at school each day and ready to learn.

On Monday, Matarau School became a **Bronze Enviroschool!** An achievement that all students, staff, and whanau worked towards. We are very proud to have achieved this milestone. Well Done Everyone!

Thank you

- Mrs Gunson and Mrs Alexander for leading us in our Enviroschool journey.
- Mrs Donaldson and Senor Crump for all their preparation and time planning and taking the year 7 camp.

People of the week

- To our Kaitiaki Club members, especially those who were involved in the Enviroschools Bronze Reflection this week. You did an awesome job.
- To our year 7 camp parents who worked so hard to create an amazing camp from what we hear you have truly gone the extra mile!
- To our Year 8 Debating team and Mr D for their efforts at the Debating Competition this week.
- To our ukulele group and Mrs Slykerman who played at the Uke Festival today.
- Katrina Walker for a great PAT Reading Comp results this week and winning a design a ukulele competition at the Uke festival.

Term Calendar

Monday 23 October	Labour Day, NO school
Monday 24 October	BOT Meeting
Wednesday 1 November	Tennis singles tournament year 5-8
Monday 13 November	Art scholarship due
Wednesday 15 November	Poroti Athletics Day year 3-8
Wednesday 22 November	WPSSA Athletics
Monday 4 December	School Athletics day
Wednesday 6 December	Year 8 Poor Knights trip
Friday 8 December	Year 8 Leavers Dinner
Tuesday 12 December	Prize giving
Thursday 14 December	Colour Run
Friday 15 December	Last day (Full day)

Drink bottles - sun hats

Please ensure all children bring a drink bottle to school each day. Wearing a uniform sunhat is compulsory this term. Children without hats will be restricted to playing in covered areas only. If your child has lost their school sunhat we have a limited stock available at the school office. (2nd hand \$5 - New hats \$12)



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In brief

- Art Scholarship information is available from Paula on request.
- Enrolment intentions for 2024 - please keep us advised of any change.
- Home gardens - please contact Mrs Burgin or Ms Gentil if you have questions

Art Scholarship (Year 4-8)

Any questions please to your child's teacher. Art Portfolios are **due 3:30 pm Monday 13th of November.**

School Trophies

If your child received a trophy at last year's prize giving, please return it to school. Thank you to those who already returned trophies. We are almost there!

Sunblock

Sunblock is at parents' discretion. Long lasting block is recommended. Clothes covering shoulders is also recommended for summer terms.

Virtue

Our new virtue is **Reliability**. Please see the attached notes to help navigate discussions with your family on the importance of being reliable. If you are reliable, you keep your promises. Others can depend on you and nothing will stop you from giving your best. I am sure you will all agree that being reliable is a very important trait. We will be looking out for those who are exceptional examples of being reliable and will celebrate them in a few weeks.

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 23rd 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

Confirmation of Secondary School

If our year 7 and 8 teachers can assist in any way with secondary school decisions, or the transition to secondary school more generally, please make contact.

Input to year 7 placement decisions

Pathway decisions will be made some time in week 6 and 7. If parents of year 6 students would like the opportunity to have input into placement decisions, please let Katie know. kdonaldson@matarau.school.nz We will confirm appointment times in week 4.



Avocado's

A special thank you to a local orchard for donating these beautiful avocados as a fundraiser. The junior school are raising money for a new playground. These are available to purchase from in room 1. 3 avocados for \$2. Please see Anna Alexander you can email her aalexander@matarau.school.nz or see one of the junior team. Get in quick before they are all gone.

Electronic Newsletter

If you are not on the school email-out list please email - admin@matarau.school.nz - to be added & stay up to date with what's happening at school.

Central Calf Club Day - Thursday 2nd of November

We are taking registrations. Please contact the office by the end of Friday 27th October.

For this event, parents need to transport their children to and from the grounds and also look after them as there won't be a school member attending on the day.

Judging commencing at 10.00 am. Please note Calves must be pre-registered and entry forms received prior to the day. An updated programme will be given out on the day.

A few things as a reminder:

- All animals must be born after 1st July 2023.
- Each competitor can only enter one of the three sections:- calf, lamb, or goat.
- All participants should wear enclosed footwear when showing their animals and a school t-shirt
- All children entering a calf, lamb, or goat will receive a Certificate of Participation and Ribbon.
- Pre-schoolers are not allowed to attend.
- All entrants will go into the "Whangarei A & P Society Lucky Draw" which will drawn at Prize-giving.
- The correct ring sizes are: Calves 15 x 15 Lams 10 x 10 Goats 10 x 10

The day will only be postponed under extreme conditions, so the likelihood of this happening is very slim. An announcement will be made on all radio stations if the day will be postponed by 7am. The postponement date is Friday 3rd of November 2023.

Please find attached this year's colouring competition for the Whangarei A&P Show. These will be displayed in our Home Industries section at the Show on Saturday the 2nd of December.

Not Attending Matarau School in 2024

This is early notice that we will shortly ask for confirmation of those children currently attending Matarau School, who will not be attending Matarau School in 2024. This information helps us with class placements, enables us to balance class numbers, and also give us an indication of whether there are spaces we could fill.

If you already know that your child will not be with us next year, please feel free to leave a message on the answer phone this weekend, or just give Paula a call next week.

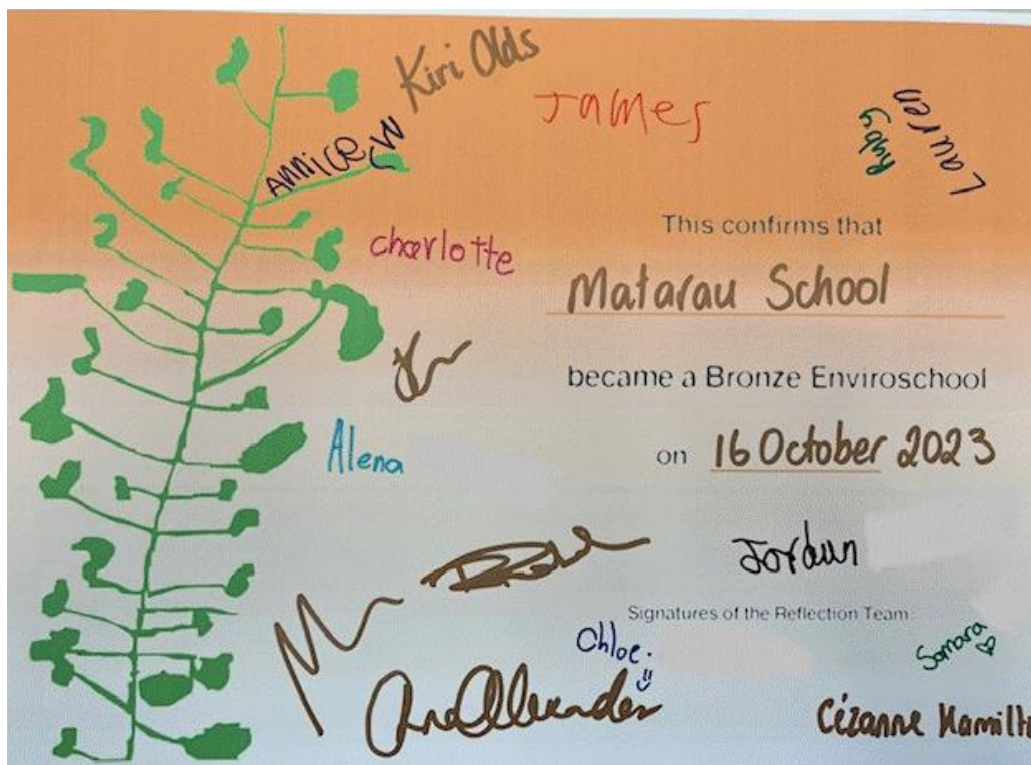
Finally

As we head into our final term, we will be celebrating successes, reflecting on our year and looking forward to whatever is next. I have had a few students drop by this week to share their results from assessments that have shown huge progress. We are very proud of you and what you have achieved! It is a good time to think about goals set earlier in the year and keep working hard to achieve them as there is still time.

Have a lovely and safe long weekend.

Ngā mihi

Rachael Robertson
ACTING PRINCIPAL



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WHEN: MONDAY 30TH OCT, 3:30-5PM

WHERE: MATARAU SCHOOL STAFFROOM

WHAT TO BRING: 3 SMALL JARS/CONTAINERS.

We will also have a collection of small containers available.

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