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Dear families.

I mentioned the wonderful work of our Kaitiaki club last week and their diligence in our Enviroschool journey. One of their goals is to reduce the amount of rubbish we generate. We love that so many families have made conscious decisions to reduce the amount of packets in lunchboxes, thus reducing the rubbish at school. In our next rubbish audit, we hope to see some further reduction. Thanks everyone!

Thank you

- To Mr P for organising our recent lunchtime sports competitions including staff verses students.
- To our diligent Parent Support Group for your ongoing commitment to our children and school community. They are currently looking for a treasurer, if you have those skills to offer, they would be very grateful to hear from you.
- To our fantastic office admin staff, Paula and Miranda. Thank you for going the extra mile for our students and our families.

People of the week

 Adam Aslan fabulous achievement. He won third best in New Zealand at the Jui Jitsu Nationals tournament that took place in Auckland over the weekend. Well done Adam!



Term Calendar

Wednesday 1 November Monday 13 November Wednesday 15 November Wednesday 22 November Monday 4 December Wednesday 6 December Friday 8 December Tuesday 12 December Thursday 14 December Friday 15 December Tennis singles tournament year 5-8
Art scholarship due
Poroti Athletics Day year 3-8
WPSSA Athletics
School Athletics day
Year 8 Poor Knights trip
Year 8 Leavers Dinner
Prize giving
Colour Run
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)





Jon: 021 444 401 jon@alldrainage.co.nz







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Poroti Athletics

A notice has come home this week to year 3-8 students for our Poroti athletics day on <u>Wednesday 15th November</u>. To assist us with our planning, please dig them out of the school bag and get the permission slip back to school on Monday. Thanks to those who have done so already.

Start date for 2024

At our Board meeting this week, Wednesday 7th February was decided upon as the 2024 first day of school for students. This is on the later side but will avoid coming back on a Friday or for one day before Waitangi day.

After school care

We understand that some families have been really affected by the sudden closure of all afterschool care options recently. Rest assured, that we are looking into options to have some provision for this for those who need it. Watch this space.

School pool

We have had some inquiries about the school pool being open over the summer holiday. Unfortunately, we will have some significant building works going on over the holidays so for access and health and safety reasons, we will not be able to open the pool during that time. All things being equal, we may be able to offer pool keys to our families for term 1. We will keep you posted.

Art Scholarship (Year 4-8)

Any questions please to your child's teacher. Art Portfolios are due 3:30~pm Monday 13^{th} 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 current 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.

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.

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.

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 23rd 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

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.

Trading Cards and Jibbitz

In the past we have requested that trading cards are not brought to school ... can we please add jibbitz to the list as well.

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.

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

Please let Miranda know if there is something a student has done that we could celebrate in our newsletter. Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the work our Board of trustee members do for our school. They put a huge amount of time and effort into their roles as BOT members and represent our community so well. We feel very fortunate to have such a dedicated BOT team.

Have a great weekend.

Ngā mihi Rachael Robertson ACTING PRINCIPAL

A huge thank you to these companies who helped us out with gifts and gazebo's for Calf Club Day.

















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