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# Newsletter

## Number 25

### 3 November 2023



Website [www.matarau.school.nz](http://www.matarau.school.nz)

Phone (09) 433 5823 Email – [admin@matarau.school.nz](mailto:admin@matarau.school.nz)

Dear parents and whanau,

#### Thank you

- To Gavin Donnelly at Fonterra for providing compost, and Bevan Harper at Element Landworks for generously delivering compost for our Compost Fundraiser. We really appreciate your support. Also to Jo Gunson for running this fundraiser.
- To the School Council for raising awareness around mental health challenges with Gumboot Friday at school today.

#### People of the week

- Students who entered the Rotary Peace Poster Competition and Emma Donaldson who won our school competition and came second in the Whangarei competition with her amazing poster.
- Students who attended Central Calf club day yesterday! Well done for all your hard work with your animals.
- Skyla De Bruyn for winning the ministocks class at the Whangarei Saloon and Stockcar club last weekend. Well done Skyla!



- Danica Williams who fundraised \$1000 for Kiwi Coast and Pukenui Forest trust with her recent Frightful Fundraiser. An amazing result Danica.
- Huge congratulations to our past students who have done very well at their secondary school prizegivings this week. Ethan Hanlon who was Dux at Boys high - we are very proud of your stunning achievement! Lachie Marvin announced as House captain at WBHS and all other students who went across the stage for various awards and acknowledgment. We are so proud of your achievements.

**Congratulations!**

#### Term Calendar

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November  
Monday 13 November  
Monday 13 November  
Tuesday 14 November  
Wednesday 15 November  
Wednesday 22 November  
Wednesday 29 November  
Monday 4 December  
Wednesday 6 December  
Friday 8 December  
Tuesday 12 December  
Thursday 14 December  
Friday 15 December

Year 7/8 Debating  
Wheels Day  
Art scholarship due  
Enviroschools celebration  
Parent meeting Senior camp 2024  
Poroti Athletics Day year 3-8  
WPSSA Athletics Y7/8  
WPSSA Athletics Y5/6  
School Athletics day  
Year 8 Poor Knights trip  
Year 8 Leavers Dinner  
Prize giving  
Colour Run  
Last day (Full day)

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### After School Care survey

We understand that for some of you the closure of our onsite afterschool care and more recently Hopscotch has made after school arrangements very difficult for you. In response to this, we are working hard to have an onsite afterschool care programme reintroduced as soon as possible. sKids, who are a very experienced, and established provider, are willing to provide this service if we have the numbers. Part of this process is to survey parents to ascertain the demand for this in our community. If you have any interest in using such an afterschool care programme now or in the future, please fill out this survey as soon as possible. **This also surveys the need for holiday programmes in our community.** The quicker we have responses in, the quicker we can have this up and running and fill this need for you and your family. The survey is quick to fill in. The link below will take you to the survey. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MatarauS>

### Start date for 2024

At our Board meeting last week, **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Art Scholarship (Year 4-8)

This is getting closer and we are looking forward to celebrating our artists at Art portfolios are due on **Monday (13.11) - any time until 3:30pm**. Please drop these to the hall where tables will be set up. We will likely re-arrange the placement of boards into categories and so please ensure your child's individual art pieces (and display boards) include your child's name and year level.

### Chemical Free Cleaners

All students have recently attended a workshop to learn how to make a couple of different types of Chemical Free cleaning products with Cezanne from Eco Solutions. We hope you enjoy using them at home.

### 2024 Year 7&8 OPC Camp

Our 2024 year 7 & 8 students are very excited about their upcoming OPC camp. There will be a meeting for parents on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November in the staffroom at 6:00pm to give you more information and a chance to ask any questions you might have.

### Poroti Athletics

Year 3-8 students are heading to the Poroti athletics day on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November. Thanks for getting permission slips back in.

### Virtue

Our current virtue is **Reliability**. We are seeing so many fine examples of reliability at school. I hope you are also experiencing this at home.

### Library Books

Please send in any library books you might have at home. We would love these back to take stock of what we have on the shelves when we open the library again.

### 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 2024.

### **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.

### **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 23 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 note there can be no extensions to this date.

Please upload photos or share & receive gardening tips on our Facebook page if you can... [www.facebook.com/matarauschoolhomegardens](https://www.facebook.com/matarauschoolhomegardens)

Home Garden 'Consent to Visit' forms will be sent out next week. These need to be returned to school please by **Thursday (16th of November)**. If your child(ren) are no longer able to participate, please advise Mrs Burgin @ [rburgin@matarau.school.nz](mailto:rburgin@matarau.school.nz).

### **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.

### **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.

### **Not Attending Matarau School in 2024**

Thanks to those who have let us know if their child is 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.

### **Lost Property**

Please drop by to check the lost property bin sometime over the next couple of weeks. Items unclaimed by term's end will be donated to charities.

Have a great weekend.

Ngā mihi

Rachael Robertson

ACTING PRINCIPAL



# GUMBOOT FRIDAY

