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# Newsletter

## Number 30

### 8 December 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,  
It's hard to believe this is our final newsletter of the year.

### Special Thanks to

Our sponsors for their generous contributions to our School  
Staff for efforts, beyond the call of duty  
The Board for its unwavering dedication to duty  
Children for striving to attain your goals  
(and for supporting others towards the same end)

To the many parents and families who have given their time to help us  
To our community champions  
To those who have trusted us and worked alongside us for the benefit  
of our kids.

**We are very grateful!**

### People of the week

- Matarau Year 8 Basketball team. They played the last game for school. You are making our school proud!
- All the parents who have been on our trips this week - Poor Knights, Kiwi North, and Sailing. We appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedules at this time of year.
- Pam, Di, Trish, Sheryn and Ross for their unwavering service to our kids and our Library week in and week out.

### Term Calendar

Tuesday 12 December	Prize giving
Thursday 14 December	Colour Run
Friday 15 December	Last day (Full day)
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Start date for 2024

### **2023 PrizeGiving – Tuesday 12th December**

We look forward to seeing you at our annual Prize giving evening  
which will start at 6:30pm and  
conclude 8.00pm (approx) with a shared supper.

We welcome all whanau and love to see our Grandparents at this  
special occasion.

**We would be grateful if each family could bring two plates  
of food for a shared supper.**

Attendance on this night is optional for our 5 year olds  
(all other children are asked to be present please).

### Lost Property

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

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Ashley Chisnall m 021 166 5618 [www.kiwibuilt.nz](http://www.kiwibuilt.nz)



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### Kahui ako Staff Only Day 2024

This is early warning that as part of our Kahui ako, teachers will be attending a staff only day on **February 19th 2024**. This will kick start a structured literacy professional development focus for all schools in our group. We apologise for any inconvenience and hope you can enjoy a long weekend.

### Prize Giving

Prize Giving always reminds us that real success seldom happens by accident. It is usually the result of diligent effort. Full credit, in advance, to every child who receives an award at prize giving, and to all of those children who worked hard to grow their learning, achieve their goals, overcome their fears and enrich the lives of others. But just as important, behind every successful child is a back stage team of parents and teachers who get stuck in and do their best, in a job that is often more an art than a science. You can take credit too.

### And your job at prize giving ...

to help us create a special moment for every child who goes up on the stage. We do not make decisions lightly on who is called up, they deserve to be there. Let's make it as special for them as we possibly can.

### After School Care Survey

Thank you to all parents who filled out the Skids after school care survey. The results of the survey showed that while families were interested in having a service for casual use or on one day a week, only a handful of families would use it fulltime. Unfortunately, Skids could not commit to running their operation with these numbers. We continue to scope options to provide some kind of service for our community and will keep you posted. Thanks you for your patience.

### Trail rides

We are excited to announce that we have the opportunity to benefit from two new trail rides as fundraisers next year. The senior school is helping with The Portland Farms trail ride on **Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**, and the PSG has a new location for the 2024 Matarau School ride on **Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**. These events are great fundraisers that will help us provide extra support to our students in a variety of ways, and provide opportunities for the trail ride community. We are very grateful to the Senior School and the PSG for working on these rides. Both will need support from parents on these days, so look out for opportunities to get involved. If you ride or know others who ride, please spread the word. More information will be available on Facebook soon. Watch this space and thanks again to the organisers for giving us this opportunity.

### Class Lists

Class lists will be on display in the hall noticeboard

**Wednesday 13th December - 2:00 pm.**

**Please do not take a photo of these lists and post them on social media platforms as it is a breach of privacy.** Thank you keeping all our tamariki safe. The staff have put a huge amount of time into getting these as close to right as they can. Lists go through multiple stages before they are finalised. Prior experience has indicated to us the importance of friendships; every effort is made to ensure that every child is placed with at least one of their close friends. All rooms will be staffed by outstanding teachers, delivering outstanding programmes, surrounded by outstanding kids (who have outstanding parents!). **Changes to lists after their publication are unlikely to be made as it can have a knock-on effect for other students. Thank you for your understanding.**

### **School reading material**

Please check at home (under beds, behind book cases etc.) for junior readers, journals, library books and send these along to school next week. We will be completing stock takes and would love to start 2024 with complete sets and full shelves. It doesn't matter how long they have been at home; we would love them back!

### **Staffing for 2024**

The Board is pleased to announce 2024 staffing as follow...

#### **Teaching Staff**

Room 1a	TBC Term3	Year 0
Room 1	Mrs Alexander	Year 1
Room 2	Mrs Barnes	Year 1
Room 3	Miss Gentil	Year 1 & 2
Room 4	Mrs Baker	Year 2
Room 5	Mr Johnson	Year 3 & 4
Room 6	Mrs Jongkind	Year 3 & 4
Room 7	Mrs Ringrose	Year 3 & 4
Room 8	Mrs Burgin	Year 5 & 6
Room 9	Senor Crump / Mr Delemare	Year 5 & 6
Room 10	Mrs Easterbrook	Year 5 & 6
Room 11	Mrs Gunson	Year 7 & 8
Room 12	Mr Pattison	Year 7 & 8
Room 13	Mrs Donaldson	Year 7 & 8

Learning Support Co-ordinator - Mrs Marvin

Learning Support / Classroom release - Mrs Walker

Classroom release - Mrs (Clare) Ringrose / Mrs Waiomio / Mrs Milicich

Te Reo - Whaia Jo Watts

Music / Classroom release - Mrs Slykerman

Reading Recovery / ORS - Mrs Broughton

Assistant Principal - Mrs Donaldson

Deputy Principal - Mrs Robertson

Principal Mr Trehwella

#### **Support Staff**

##### **Teacher Aides**

Mrs Crawford

Mrs Pol

Mrs Hamilton

Mrs Langley

Mrs Ryan

Mrs Walker (Karen)

##### **Information Technology**

Mrs Sullivan

##### **Administration**

Paula Hannam

Mrs Pol

Mrs Sinclair (accounts)

##### **Caretaker / Grounds**

Mr Gardner-Lee

##### **ESOL**

Mrs Pol

### **A bit of data crunching**

Our end of year achievement data has shown that approximately 87% of Matarau students are Reading at or above standard, 80 % of students are writing at or above standard, and 77% of students are at or above standard in Mathematics. These are really positive results and are a credit to all involved.

In our focus area of science, our commencement data, taken mid-2022, showed 57% of students at or above standard in Science capabilities. There has been significant work done during 2022/23 in science, using the science boxes, STEAM, and in ownership with STEAM as a context. Data shows that across all levels (years 3-8) there has been a significant shift of students now working at or above in science capabilities. Our end of 2023 data shows 90.7% of students are now working at and above, which has far exceeded our targets. We thank Mr Johnson for leading us in this area and all the staff and students who have worked hard toward this result. This really is something to celebrate!

### **Farewell staff...**

You have seen a list of our 2024 staffing. There is a name that has been on the list for a very long time that we are sad to farewell. Mrs Julie Williams has been a part of our school for 18 years in a number of roles; parent, classroom teacher and more recently as our Learning Support and pastoral care teacher. Julie has been so dedicated in this role and many of our students have benefited from her dedication and expertise. We are very grateful to have had her as a colleague, friend and mentor. We wish Julie all the best for her future endeavors and will miss her dearly.

Caitlyn Redwood has been with us as a teacher Aide for the past three terms. We have enjoyed connecting with you again Caitlyn and thank you for your work in Room 1. We wish you all the best for your Teacher training next year.

Mrs Jenny Wiegersma has been teaching in Room 1a and will return to us later in 2024. Thank you for your dedication in this role and we look forward to your return.

We have plenty of exciting things planned for next year including a continued focus on science and maths extending structured literacy, our enviroschool work, student ownership, student well-being, specialist music and Te Reo Maori teaching, and Kapa Haka to name a few.

Thank you again for all your support this term.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any queries while Kevin is on leave at rrobertson@matarau.school.nz

Have a great weekend.

Ngā mihi

Rachael Robertson  
ACTING PRINCIPAL

### **As this is the last (official) newsletter of the year ...**

Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas. Best wishes to those who end their association with us this year - please keep in touch.

And to you all ... stay well and travel safely if going away.

*Final day of school 2023 ... Friday 15 December (finish 3:00 pm)*

*First day of school 2024 ... Wednesday 7 February*





### Road Safety

- Please drive carefully and reduce your speed when passing the school
- Maximum 5kph in the carpark and bus bay.
- 20kph passing a stationary bus
- Pick up of students from the designated spots where possible.
- Walking or supervising your children across the road at drop off & pick up
- **And NO PARKING ON YELLOW ZONES.**

Many thanks.



## Sharing the Christmas Cheer....

We have been inspired by the kindness of our students...Up in the Junior's, we have had lots of discussions around caring for others and what that looks like.... and today we discussed Christmas. For most it's a wonderful time surrounded by friends and family and yummy kai...for some, this isn't always the case. So this has lead us to an idea.....

The Junior Teaching Team are creating hampers to gift to the Salvation Army and SPCA. If you are in a position to donate, we would be very grateful for your support. We are after food, toys, animal food and toiletries. Have a think of all the delicious food you like to eat at Christmas time. Please only send non-perishable items. Please deliver your donations to the learning support space or any junior teacher by the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.

We really appreciate your generosity and we know these items will mean so much to so many...but please remember this is absolutely optional.

Kind Regards  
The Junior Team

### Athletics Day



## Reliability Virtue Winners





# Sailing trip



# Kiwi North Museum

