

Newsletter

Number 8

28 March 2025



Website www.matarau.school.nz

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

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Thank you

- ... Mrs Gunson and team for two fantastic duathlon events
- ... Those who turned up to support on the day

Well done

- ... Our duathlon participants for cycling and running their hearts out.
- ... Those children who received swimming certificates at this week's assembly

Term calendar ... *More to follow as dates come to hand*

Monday	31 March	Adventure Day Year 7 & 8
Tuesday	8 April	Sanitarium Weetbix Kids Tryathlon Y5-8

Last day of Term 1 Friday 11th. First day of Term 2 is Monday 28th.

Please check our School App regularly for any permission slips

Pool key holders

In the past we have closed the pool just shy of Easter. This year, as the pool is now heated, we are intending to push the season out a bit, certainly through the forthcoming holidays and a bit beyond. This will be dependent though on usage. If a reasonable number of key holders continue to use the pool we will run it as long as you use it ... if we have only a handful of users we might give the pool a rest. So it's a bit of a use it or lose it situation. (Please remember to replace the pool cover after use).

Lost Property

Please drop by over the coming weeks to check lost property - located in the corridor between rooms 11 and 12. Items remaining at the end of term will be donated to charities.

School Books

Might also be a good time to check on bookshelves, under beds etc for any school books. It would be great to have these back at school by term's end.

In brief

- ... Cell Phones ... please ensure you are up to speed with our cell phone at school requirements and keep us informed of any changes.
- ... Headlice ... please check your child's hair weekly and treat within 24/48 hours where necessary.
- ... Please show a big interest in what your child is reading. Read to them, or listen to them read, each night if possible.
- ... Please don't bring jibbits to school.

Bus Pick-up and Drop-off Times

Information on our bus routes can be found on our website or at:

www.wntng.easybus.nz



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H.M.E

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Term One Board of Trustees Update

Well the Board has been super busy over the past 4 months with recruiting our incoming principal and preparing to farewell Mr T. Thank you to all those who completed our surveys at the end of last year. This important information formed the basis of our decisions during the recruitment process.

We have a few opportunities for our community to connect with Mr T before he goes. If none of the following suit, you are of course always welcome to drop in to see him before the end of term, or send Paula a note to be included in his messages book.

- Wednesday 2nd April 10.45am is a farewell morning tea and presentation of Kevin's gift. There will be an opportunity for those that wish to speak briefly to do so.
- Final assembly on the last day of term about 2.30pm, usually on the courts weather permitting, Kevin will address the kids/school.

Kevin will also spend some time in each class over the last week of term where your children can share anything special with him.

Our Board is immensely grateful for the dedication, passion and guidance that Kevin has given to Matarau School over his 29 years at the helm. Our community will certainly miss his thoughtful wisdom and having him in our daily lives.

We have some more significant property projects due to start shortly. Room 13 is the final classroom to have an upgrade and this will begin very soon. We are finalising additional projects for the next year or so and will communicate when closer. We have also had a first look at the school master plan which is very exciting, and work continues on this with the project manager and the Ministry of Education.

Next term Tom Clarkson joins our school as the new principal. We will be having a powhiri to welcome Tom on the first day of Term 1, 28th April, and parents/community are invited to attend. We will communicate further details before the end of term. The staff have connected informally with Tom this week, and he is excited to join our school and learn about all the great things happening for our tamariki.

If you have any questions/thoughts you can reach the Board at bot@matarau.school.nz

Regards,

Matarau School Board of Trustees

Fiona Goodin, Toni Pivac, David Postlewaight, Gary Langley, Sally Roberts, Kevin Trewhella and Adam Crump

Easter Raffle Alert!



Exciting news! We're fundraising for our 2026 OPC trip with a fun Easter Raffle!

If you can donate an Easter-themed item, we'd greatly appreciate it!

Please send your donations to the office **before April 7.**

Raffle tickets will be distributed shortly.

Thank you for your generosity! Let's make this trip happen together! ★♥ What Easter item will you donate?

Yummy Stickers

Please help Matarau School to collect Yummy Stickers from various fruits. Place the stickers on a collection sheet and hold onto them. Once complete, send your sheets to Mrs E in Room 10. We receive free sports gear in return for these stickers and would really appreciate all contributions. A copy of the Yummy sticker collection sheet is handed out with this newsletter or can be downloaded from:

<https://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/schools/>

Sponsors

If you would like to be a school sponsor, please contact Miranda at school (admin2@matarau.school.nz). For a \$600 donation to the school, sponsors are connected with a class for the year, and they are advertised on our website and in weekly newsletters. Sponsor donations are used to buy learning resources. We are very grateful to our 2024 sponsors ... **THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE SCHOOL AND FOR YOUR VERY GENEROUS SUPPORT.**

Further interviews

Teachers remain available by appointment.

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.

BSLA Whanau Workshop Invitation

Dear Whānau of Junior School students,

As you know, our Junior team uses a structured literacy, research-based way of teaching reading and spelling.

It is called the **Better Start Literacy Approach**. www.betterstartapproach.com It was developed by the Child Well-being Research Institute at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch. We would love to share how we use this approach, and how you can support the reading journey for your child at home. We welcome you to attend a BSLA whanau workshop run by our teachers on **Wednesday 2nd April at 3:15 pm**.

Come and join us in Room 1 for afternoon tea and a basic introduction. From there, we will split into separate areas for either Year 1 or Year 2 students. RSVP: Please email Jackie at jmarvin@matarau.school.nz

Guitar lessons

Vangie has places available for guitar lessons. If you are interested for your child to learn to play the guitar or want to know more, please contact her 0211883251 or email killelea@outlook.com



Finally

Let us know if we can help in any way as we near the end of term.

Nga mihi
Kevin Trewella
PRINCIPAL