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Newsletter

Number 36

13 December 2024



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Thank You

... to all the parents who helped out at the Year 8 Poor Knights trip.
... Mrs (Karen) Walker for her services as a teacher aide over recent years. Karen has been very diligent in this role and will be much missed. Best wishes Karen for your new project!

People Of The Week

... The dozens of children who received certificates over the past two weeks for stunning achievements and contributions over the course of 2024.

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

16 December School Prize Giving
17 December Issue of end of year School Reports
18 December Tabloid Day
20 December Final day of the 2024 school year (**till 12pm**)
First day of school 2025 ... 3rd February 2025

2024 Prize Giving – Monday 16th 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).

Tabloid Day - 18th December

Students are playing games in their house colour groups for the first and the second block of the day (18 December). Please ensure children bring togs and towel and a change of clothes to school.

Seniors will be selling ice blocks & drinks for \$2 each from the canteen and so a little bit of change would be great.

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 2025.

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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FINAL DAY / FINISHING TIME FRIDAY 20.12

School finishes at **12:00** (mid-day) on 20 December. We understand that some parents may opt to keep their children home on that day. Much of the day will be used packing up and getting ready for "lock-up". If your child is attending ON 20.12, and using buses on this day, **please note that all buses will run three hours earlier than usual.**

Having said that, drop-off times will vary depending on loadings and so we are unable to be exact with respect to drop-off times.

The School Swimming Pool

Keys for the next season are available now from the school office for \$50.

The swimming season usually stretches as far as Easter ... but we have a heated pool now and so likely longer this year.

Key holders are welcome to use the school up to 23 December. The pool will be up and running and ready for use in mid-January.

Thank you AGAIN to our wonderful Parent Support Group, and their supporters, for investing in the heating of our pool. You are awesome!

Payment Pool keys

You can pay in cash or through our school's bank account. (sorry no Eftpos)

Funds must be cleared before we can issue a key - as we use Xero, this will always take one business day. Once payment is received we will contact you to collect the pool key at the office. Please be aware that we won't give a key to students in case of losing it.

The office is open every day from 8:30 am until 3:30 pm.

Book Signing

If you were kind enough to donate money towards our "wellness through books" programme another huge thankyou. If you would like to write in the cover of one of these books please drop by the office some time next week.

Netball dresses

We are still waiting for a few Netball dresses to be returned.

Please bring these to the Office asap.

Class Lists

These will be on display on the hall noticeboard **Wednesday the 18th December – 2:00 pm**. The staff will have put a huge amount of time into getting placements as close to optimal as they can, and parent requests will have been carefully considered. Sometimes a request by one parent can be directly countered by the request of another parent, and sometimes we do not feel a request is in the interest of the child or their peers. 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. Where all requests cannot, for whatever reason, be met, we aim to meet at least one request where we can. Having said all of this, there must be give and take, reflection (and time – even a day or two) can bring perspective, and change can be a very positive thing. 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.

Staffing for 2025

The Board is pleased to announce 2025 staffing as follow...

Teaching staff		Support staff
Room 1a	TBC ... likely start term 3	Year 1/0
Room 1	Mrs Alexander	Teacher Aides
Room 2	Mrs Milicich (Term 1) Mrs Wiegersma	Mrs Crawford
Room 3	Miss Gentil	Mrs Pol
Room 4	Mrs Baker	Mrs Hamilton
Room 5	Mr Johnson	Mrs Langley
Room 6	Mrs Jongkind	Mrs Ryan
Room 7	Mrs Ringrose	Mrs Ringer
Room 8	Mrs Burgin	Information
Room 9	Snr Crump/Mr Delemare	Technology
Room 10	Mrs Easterbrook	Mrs Sullivan
Room 11	Mrs Gunson	Administration
Room 12	Mr Pattison	Ms Hannam
Room 13	Mrs Donaldson	Mrs Pol
		Mrs Sinclair (accounts)
		Caretaker / Grounds
		Mr Gardner-Lee
	Learning Support Co-ordinator - Mrs Marvin	
	Learning Support - Mrs Walker - Mrs Gunson	
	Release - Mrs Walker /Mrs (Clare) Ringrose / Mrs Broughton	
	Te Reo - Whaea Jo Watts	ESOL
	Music - Mrs Slykerman	Mrs Pol
	Reading Recovery / Junior diagnostics - Mrs Broughton	
	Deputy Principal - Mrs Donaldson / Assistant Principal - Mrs Marvin	

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. Every child who gets an award at prize giving, or the weeks before, deserves their moment. In almost all cases decisions are made only after trawling through comprehensive data, and other records, to make sure the right student gets the right award. 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.

Special Thanks to

Our sponsors for their generous contributions to our School
Staff for efforts, beyond the call of duty
The Board for its unswerving dedication to duty
Children for striving to attain your goals
(and for supporting others towards the same end)
To the many parents etc who have given their time to help in
classrooms, camp, sports days, transport
To those who have given us the benefit of the doubt
when things didn't quite turn out right.

We have plenty of exciting things planned for next year including a continued focus on mathematics, science and technology, envirocare, student ownership, expanded literacy support (moving up the school)... and more.

Finally

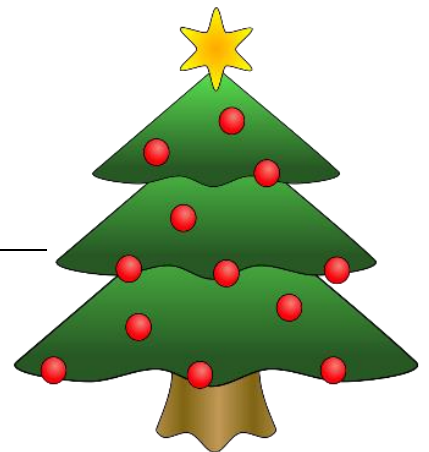
As this is the last (official) newsletter of the year ...

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 2024 ... Friday 20 December (finish 12:00 pm)

First day of school 2025 ... Monday 3 February



Nga mihi

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL



FUEL FOR SCHOOLS

The Board would like to thank

Grimmer Contracting Ltd, Adairs Farming Limited, Alisha Tracey and Bevan Grant Harper DS and KL Campbell Partnershipfor nominating Matarau School as a recipient for Fuel for Schools reward points. This generous support helps us to buy additional learning resources. If you are in a position to use these companies please do so in acknowledgment of their generous support.

If you think you might be interested in nominating Matarau School as a recipient of Fuel for Schools points please contact your fuel rep.

