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Leah & Leon Harold
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Newsletter

Number 2

14 February 2025



Website www.matarau.school.nz

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

Thank you

... to the Board of Trustees for their very diligent work over recent months.

... again ... to parents for ensuring children were so well prepared for the start of school.

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

Monday	24 February	Surf Life Saving Room 1-4
Tuesday	25 February	Surf Life Saving Room 5 & 6
Monday	3 March	Surf Life Saving Room 7 & 8
Thursday	6 March	Kokopu Swimming
Friday	7 March	Surf Life Saving Room 9 & 10
Wednesday	12 March	WPSSA Swimming Year 5-8
Sunday	16 March	Matarau School Trail Ride
Monday	17 March	School Interviews
Tuesday	18 March	School Interviews
Thursday	20 March	School Swimming Sport Year 4-8
Wednesday	26 March	Individual Duathlon
Thursday	27 March	Team Duathlon
Monday	31 March	Year 7 & 8 Adventure Day

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

Driveways near to the school carpark

Please ensure that you do not park across the driveways next to or opposite the entrance to the school carpark. Thank you.

Early drop off of children

A number of children are being dropped at school in the vicinity of 7:45-8:00 AM each morning. We understand that the mornings are a juggling act for families but please ensure that no child is dropped a school before 8:00 AM. From 8:00 AM staff will be on site, but we cannot guarantee supervision before that time. So ... for the safety of your children ... no later than 8:00 AM please.

Caregiver app - Permission Slips & Notices

Please make sure you are connected to our School App. There are already permission slips published. If you enable notifications on your phone and also on the app, you will be notified when a new permission slip or notice is loaded. Please contact the Office if you have any difficulties getting on the caregiver app.

Newsletters (Keeping Informed)

Newsletters are issued to the eldest child in each family every second Friday, or via the school app and by email. On "in-between" Fridays electronic (reminder) newsletters are sent to all families. Copies of our newsletter are also available on our website, school app and are emailed. Please check the newsletter each week to ensure you are up to date on events. If you have a particular preference for how you receive your newsletter, contact Miranda (admin2@matarau.school.nz).



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Late Arrivals

Children who arrive at school after 9:00am bell are asked to report to the office on arrival please.

School gates

The school gates help us to keep children safe. If you are entering, or exiting, the school grounds during school hours it is important to ensure you close these gates after you. If you are dropping a child at school after the morning bell please be aware that they may not be tall enough to open these gates on their own.

Medications

Medications should be held at, and administered from, the school office. **Where we currently hold medication for your child, please call by the office within the next 2 weeks to check expiry dates and arrange replacement where necessary. For those students that are on regular medication can you please come to the office to fill in a new Medication Form?**

Cell phones

If your child does bring a cell phone to school, please note that these must be dropped to the school office on arrival at school and picked up on departure each day. If you want to get a message to your child during the school day this should be channelled through the school office who will deliver the message to your child.

Pick up of Children - School Carpark

This is a dangerous stretch of road and we request that all parents assist us to minimise risks.

1. If dropping children off in the upper car park please note the designated drop off zone. **Please do not park in the zone** and move on as quickly as you safely can.
2. If you have made arrangements for somebody else to pick your child up from school, the office must be advised beforehand. Any visitors to the school should report to the office first.
3. Parents of non-bus children are asked to pick their children up by 3:30PM please.

Homework

.. teachers will provide more detailed information on homework expectations in respective classes. **You can opt your child out of homework at any stage by contacting their teacher, we know that things can get busy at home.** At the same time, we do encouragement homework if possible as this can establish useful routines, promote self-management, and provide opportunities for reinforcement of skills for later application in class. The **school's general approach** is to provide homework only on 3 or 4 days a week (around 20 minutes each night) focusing largely on skills maintenance. Please give thought to a regular time and place for homework and let your child's teacher know if you need help with any speed wobbles. **If you do not want your child to receive homework please advise their teacher next week.**

Bus Pick-up and Drop-off Times

Information on our bus routes can be found on our website or at: www.wntng.easybus.nz

More on buses

Parents are reminded that motor vehicles are required to reduce their speed to 20km per hour when passing a stationary bus.

PLEASE NOTE THAT BUS DROP OFF TIMES ARE HIGHLY DEPENDENT ON LOADINGS- PARTICULARLY WHEN THERE IS A MAJOR EVENT AT SCHOOL. ON SPORTS DAYS / CAMP WEEKS ETC. PARENTS SHOULD EXPECT TIMES TO VARY QUITE WIDELY.

Medical Forms/Address/Contact Details

On enrolment parents provide important details on contacts / custody issues / medical conditions / medications etc. Please continue throughout the year to keep us informed so that we can properly discharge our duty of care to your child(ren).

Have your residential / contact details changed?

... if so please let Paula know.

If you formerly resided out of zone, and are now residing in zone, we are particularly keen to hear from you. In zone children generate more funding ... which means more and better resources for students. So please let us know next week if your children were balloted into the school initially and have moved into our zone since then.

Social Media

We are inviting you to partner with us this year in promoting the best possible use of social media.

We would like you to consider implementing the following measures.

Limiting your child's access to multiple apps (and accounts)

Limiting the amount of time they spend using apps

Regularly check your child's device(s)

Agree to let school know of social media breaches that may impact friendships (we will also commit to letting you know of any social media concerns that come to our attention)

Emphasising often that social media is never a place to settle scores or the thrash out complex issues.

We have seen the damage that ripples when children vent on social media ... so please assist us by driving the message at home, by monitoring what is posted, and by implementing the steps above. Please let us know where we can help. We are willing to organize meetings at school to share best practise if there is interest (just let us know your needs and where you may be able to help).

Finally

Thanks again for creating a smooth start to term. Please let us know if we can help in any way. Questions welcome.

Nga mihi

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Sushi every Thursday
Ruatangata Café every Friday



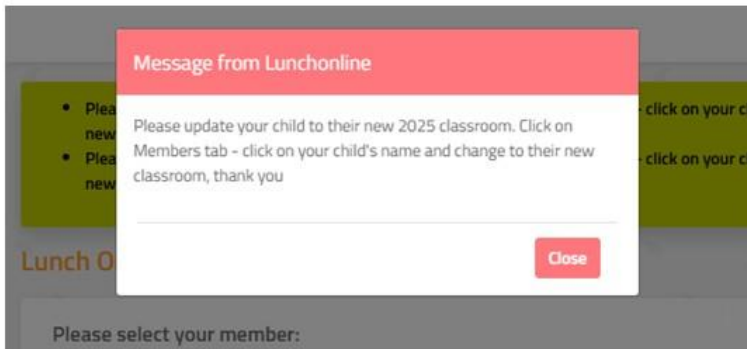
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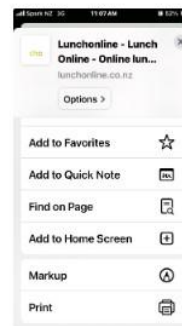
Pop Up Reminder / Change Classroom

When you first log on in 2025, you will see a pop-up on the screen reminding you to change your child's classroom to their new room. This pop-up feature will also be used for any important notices. Please remember to update **your child's new classroom**.



TO SET UP LUNCHONLINE ICON ON YOUR Iphone (like an app)

In Safari – go to our website www.lunchonline.co.nz
At the bottom center click on the icon showing a box with an upward arrow, this will give you a menu of options, scroll up and click on 'Add to the Home Screen' – click Add



TO SET UP LUNCHONLINE ICON ON YOUR ANDROID PHONE (like an app)

In Google – go to our website www.lunchonline.co.nz
At the top right of the screen, there is a drop-down option, this will give you a menu of options, scroll up and click on 'Add to the Home Screen'



We believe breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and we'll now be providing Sanitarium Weet-Bix™ and Anchor™ Milk in a programme that is a partnership between Ministry of Social Development, Sanitarium and Fonterra, and has been running successfully nationwide for over 12 years.

Our Breakfast Club will be open this **Monday morning** from 8:15 to 8:45 in the hall.

For more information about the programme, you can visit www.kickstartbreakfast.co.nz

Every Monday – Wednesday – Friday