

# VISION STATEMENT

Equip for Life  
Prepare for Eternity  
Whakarawe mā mataora  
Whakareri mā āke tonu atu



Weeks: 1 - 2

Term 4 2024:  
14 Whiringa-ā-nuku (October)

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Kapa Haka &  
Ki o Rahi Festival  
See p3



What You Need to Know for  
Ag, Pet and Flower Day  
See p3&5



Sports Academy and  
Term 4 Sports  
See p6



## CELEBRATING OUR IX OLYMPIRUA

On the last day of last term we held our medal ceremony for our 9th ever Olympirua we held throughout Term 3. This formed our closing ceremony. Over the term we held events in sprints, the cross country, high jump, long jump, shotput, discus and gumboot throw. These events were held for girls and boys across all the classes. An enormous number of gold, silver and bronze medals were created and individualised for every student who placed. Every student earned points for their team whenever they competed and even more if they placed. Well done to every student who took part.

We were really thrilled to have as a guest Olympian Brooke Neal who talked about her experiences at the Olympics and Commonwealth Games in Hockey, and who presented our medals. Brooke was a stunning speaker who enthralled and inspired both students and all adults present. By the end even the grandparents were starting to believe they could make the next Olympics!

*Below are just some of our Olympirua athletes with Brooke Neal and their medals (more pictures can be found on Facebook):*





## From the Desk of the Tumuaki

Welcome back to our final term of the year. Term 4 is always one of the most exciting as we build up to Christmas and celebrate the birth of Christ whom God sent for us. There are always a lot of events on in Term 4 too so keep an eye on the calendar on the back page for what's coming up. You can also go into the news and events page of our school website to find even more events that are coming up beyond those listed in each newsletter.

In a few week's time the school is expecting to hit its roll cap and be full for the first time in our 36 year history. This week we are celebrating Xavier Morris starting school as a New Entrant. Xavier is the latest Morris to join us and he has three older siblings in the school already. We are excited to have Xavier join us.

### Attendance

I know I have been talking about attendance a lot this year but that is because of a very strong push on schools by the government and the Ministry of Education. It is true that attendance across the country has been very poor up until this year, and to be fair has only improved slightly since. This year the government has set a target of 70% of all students attending school 90% of the time or more. Next year this increases to 75% of all students.

We have consistently exceeded these targets and I thank you for giving this due diligence. Each school has been allocated an Attendance and Engagement Advisor whose role it is to monitor their schools and chase schools into action to have their students at school. Each advisor in our region seems to have been given a random allocation of schools across Hamilton and the Waikato. You may be interested to know we are one of only two schools under our Advisor who are meeting the target.

In Term 3, where there is often a lot of sickness, we still managed to have 82% of students attending 90% of the time or more. This was up from 61% for us at the same time in 2023.

In spite of this both the Ministry of Education and ERO have asked us to focus on improving this data. When ERO did our school review last term this was one of three target goals they set for us to concentrate improvement on. Just to make sure we don't forget about this the Ministry will send both our Attendance and Engagement Advisor and our appointed Ministry liaison to visit with us in the next few weeks to talk through what we are doing to improve attendance.

The point is to please realise that I am not giving people a hard time for attendance but it is government driven. And while this might seem a little hard when we are already doing pretty well the country as a whole is not. Remember when your child has high attendance they have a distinct advantage long term over those who do not.

Attendance is really important. Everyday our teachers put together important and motivating learning for your children. In many subjects this is material that gets built upon day by day meaning days missed have an impact. Your child's best chance of achieving academically, growing spiritually, developing in physical skills and becoming emotionally well balanced through learning how to interact socially are to be at school every day they possibly can be. Every day counts.

Further to this is to be at school before the start of the school day too. In Term 3 a number of children were consistently late which means they have not had time to be in class before school, connect with their teacher and peers, and be prepared for learning. Often the first subject of the day is Bible and some students have been missing much of these lessons. School starts at 8:50AM each day.

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## Self-control Quote

"If you can learn self-control, you can master anything."

- Unknown

### INTERESTING MCS FACTS

- After Labour Weekend this year the school will have hit its maximum roll cap for the first time.
- According to the Ministry of Education in Term 3 we had 82% of all our students attending for 90% of the time or more.
- The school is currently preparing to increase the number of classrooms we have. This is the first time in 20 years.



Being at school at least 5—10 minutes before this where possible will help them be better engaged for the start of the day.

Having said all this can I please remind you of one thing—if your child is sick, and you will know when they are genuinely sick, please keep them at home. When sick they are in no prime space to be learning and they can spread their sickness to others. They are better to stay home and fully recover so they can join back in with their learning and enjoy what promises to be a really exciting term.

God bless

Alistair Paterson

### Every Day Counts



## Prayer Requests...

We appreciate your prayers for the school. Here's what's big on our minds at the moment:

- In Term 4 please continue to pray for each of our amazing students to grow strong academically, spiritually, physically and to be emotionally connected and well balanced.
- Please pray that our applications with the Ministry of Education for roll growth and to extend to Years 9 and 10 will be accepted.
- And pray please for wisdom and God's direction for our school boards to be able to plan and prepare for future growth, and for the resources needed for this.

## News - Kawepūrongo

### AG, PET AND FLOWER DAY

Tomorrow is this year's Ag, Pet and Flower Day.



**Ag Day** is available for students competing with a farm animal — a lamb, calf or goat. If this is you the school gates will be open for access from 8:30AM. Vehicles can drive in with farm animals and park on the field boundary. Students involved in Ag Day focus on this throughout the morning. They can arrive at school with their animal and do not need to report to class at the start of the day.

**Pet Day** is available for any student not participating in Ag Day. Animals can come to school at the start of the day. Students need to take dogs over to be tied up at the Junior class, while all other animals go to the school library. Please make sure all your pet's needs are attended to. This year pets will be judged by Kaimai Vets and will be done during the first block of the day. This is to enable pets to be taken home again from 10AM please. Being at school and around other animals can be stressful on family pets. Please make sure all pet diaries come to school and are ready to be talked through by your child with the vet.



**Flower Day** is being brought back again this year as a bi-annual event. This is a chance for students to bring out their creative skills. This is for all students not involved in Ag Day. Tomorrow students need to please bring flowers, foliage and a few vegetables (if doing a vege animal) that they can find in order to build their creations. More details about the rules and categories available can be found on page 5.



Parents and whānau are very welcome to be part of all three of these events throughout the morning and help would be appreciated while students are making their creations in the first block of the day. Please remember you can't help our students create but can help with cutting etc.

LJ Hooker are very kindly donating and cooking sausages for lunch for which we are very grateful. Everyone will be able to have a free sausage!



### YUMMY STICKERS

If you've been collecting Yummy fruit stickers for our school, thank you. Can you please get these in to us immediately as we have to have these in this week to claim a share of \$200 000 in sports gear that they provide.



### LIGHT PARTY

Every year Matamata Baptist Church with our help put on the children's party of the year—the Matamata Light Party. This is an alternative event to Halloween for children and is a chance for children to celebrate things in life that are good and wholesome. It is an event aimed at pre-schoolers, primary and intermediate aged children to help them enjoy fun in a wholesome environment and to keep them off the streets and away from trick or treating.



The Light Party is an event packed with lots of free games, prizes, lollies and food, along with a Christian message.

If you have never been to a Light Party this will be an event not to miss.

Because of our partnership in running this event there are a number of things that are needed to help make this an outstanding event in the community. Please let us know if you can possibly help with any of them. We would be very grateful for:

- your prayers
- cash Donations to help with event costs which can be made to Matamata Baptist Church's bank account: 03 0363 0323802 01 - Reference: Light party
- donations of vouchers from businesses to go into children's gift bags
- volunteers to help on the night who are available from 5PM. If you are able to help on the night, please leave your name and phone number with either Sarah in the school office or Kathy Baxendine on 021 209 6430. Volunteers are encouraged to dress to the theme - this year it is a 'Royal' Light Party!

Any way you are able to help with the success of the event will be very much appreciated.

Remember the Light Party is always held as an alternative to Halloween on the **31st of October**. This year it falls in our third week back on a Thursday between 5:30—7:30PM.

### KAPA HAKA AND KI O RAHI FESTIVAL

The Matamata schools annual Kapa Haka and Ki o Rahi Festival is coming up on **Wednesday the 30th of October**. The Kapa Haka Festival is a whole school event that runs for the morning at Firth School. The Ki o Rahi Festival is for Years 5 and 6 and will continue on into the afternoon following the Kapa Haka event.



Our students have been preparing to sing two Christian Māori songs at the festival and will continue practising for this over the next few weeks.

Whānau are very welcome to come on the day. We will be walking as a school soon after the morning bell and would appreciate any support to help us walk them to Firth. Please let us know if you can join us or if you don't want your child to be a part of this day.



## More News—Kawepūrongo

### END OF TERM 3 AWARDS

Our Olympiria closing ceremony also doubled as our end of Term 3 assembly so was extra long with both medals and awards. We were still able to celebrate with our students the hard work they had put in over the weeks of Term 3 to earn our Rockstar and Memory Verse awards. Our Rockstar certificates are earned by earning a minimum number of points over the term gained through regular attendance, punctuality, homework completion and taking pride in wearing their correct school uniform.



Memory verse certificates are always a challenge to earn but are based around core passages we want our students to know over their eight year period with us. Many of these passages are built upon again in later years. Here we hope our students will revise what they learned in their younger years and then build upon these. Thus when we set a passage as a school often not all of these verses will be expected to be known by junior students. Their teachers will encourage fewer to be learned of the same passage (this is the case this term).

We also had our hard to earn core value badges to give away. In Term 3 our core value was perseverance. Only two badges are given away to each class making them a real challenge to earn. Last term the perseverance badges went to:

Room 5 (Y1/2) - Malea Meisterhans and Nia Lesivakarua

Room 4 (Y2/3) - Miciah Velk and Ram Aldrian Muli

Room 1 (Y4) - Stewart Salmon and John Gabriel Magan

Room 2 (Y5/6) - Aurora Godbey and Sebastian Tomlinson

Room 3 (Y7/8) - Donna Reyes and Lachlan Nicholls

Two further students earned Principal's Award badges:

Alex Burgess—for perseverance and success outside of school in sports.

Adriel Magan—for having an outstanding attitude, participation, perseverance and having a high work ethic.

*Below: Rockstar and Memory Verse certificate recipients.*

*Bottom: The Term 3 badge recipients*



### BATHROOM REFRESH

We want to offer a very big thank you to Sarah Smith and Mary Porter who at the end of last term repainted the bathrooms attached to Rooms 1 and 2. We also want to offer a special thanks to the team at our local Resene's who provided all the paint to us for free too!



What a real blessing it has been to have this job done for the school and our students. What a difference this has made to these spaces.

### GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



Every year Willow Creek Church in Chicago host an amazing leadership summit involving some of the best leaders of the day to develop leadership skills. The speakers are a mix of Christians and non-religious people but all are very much top of their game. They all present messages on how to grow your leadership and meet the needs of corporate, every day business and social sectors.

These messages are professionally recorded and distributed all around the world through their Global Leadership Summit. For years Matamata Christian School has supported this buying tickets to host the showing of this event. Our intent has always been to help build leadership skills into our local business, civic leaders and churches.

We intend to show the Summit locally hosting our event on **Friday the 8th of November**. This is a whole day event which we provide for free including lunch for those who attend.

We invite people to join us for this. If you would like to be involved please let either Mr Paterson or the school office know. We would love you to join us for an event we feel quite passionately about.



# MATAMATA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL'S FLOWER DAY 2024

Our bi-annual Flower Day event is on this year and runs alongside Ag and Pet Day tomorrow **Tuesday the 15th of October**. This is a chance for the artistic side of each student to come out and shine. There are a number of categories students can enter into and each should enter into two categories (note those involved with Ag Day will not have time to take part in Flower Day).

**The Rules** (because we have to have these in fairness to all)

- ◆ Students should bring only raw materials to school. Vegetables must not be pre-cut and flower arrangements **cannot** be prepared at home beforehand.
- ◆ Please no practising or preparing at home as this invites too much parent or whānau input. The only exception to this is with the miniature gardens where suggestions can be made at home and students can have a trial run, but parents and whānau cannot help students prepare or practise please.

## The Categories

Year Levels	Category
1 - 3	<b>Sand Saucer.</b> You need to bring a saucer with your name marked underneath. You can use sand (available at school) or Vaseline. Have plenty of small flowers and petals of all sizes. You should be trying to cover any sand if it is used.
1 - 8	<b>Arrangement in an Unusual Container.</b> Bring something interesting—a container, old teapot, shoe etc. You will need an arrangement of blooms.
1 - 8	<b>Miniature Garden to be made in a roasting dish or similar.</b> Gardens can be practised at home, disassembled and reassembled at school. The pan should be no bigger than 40cm please. Gardens are to be made from natural materials (no artificial flowers please). Cars, plastic animals and Lego props are allowed. Mirrors or foil can also be used for streams or a pond effect.
4 - 8	<b>Vegetable or Fruit Novelty.</b> Try looking up ideas on Google Images.
6 - 8	<b>Restaurant Table Centrepiece.</b> Arrangement in a container and to be no higher than 20cm.





# Sports News—Kawepūrongo

## SPORTS ACADEMY

This year we have had an awesome band of parent volunteers running our very popular Sports Academy programme after school one day per week. We really need one or two more to help now please as we build up to the busy summer season.



The idea of our Sports Academy is to build up general sports skills in our students that can be applied across different sports codes. The Academy endeavours to better prepare all students in their fitness, fine motor skills and help them to develop a better understanding of the games being provided. If you can help out, even if only sometimes, then please let the school office know or directly contact Lindi van Deventer, Bridgit Hildreth or Emma-Jayne Nicholls. We would be very grateful to have you.

This term Sports Academy will be on after school each Tuesday from 3:15—4:30PM. All students from Years 3—8 are eligible to be a part and it is free to be a part of. We encourage this as we believe sport and PE is a very important part of the development of all students. We really believe in sports and have seen the difference that our Sports Academy is making amongst our Year 3—8 students. If you have a child who wants to be involved and who hasn't been involved this year please register them through the school office.

## FUTSAL

There are two sports on so far in our Matamata after school leagues for Term 4. The first is Futsal (Indoor Soccer) starting after school on Monday next week. We will have teams for Years 3/4 and 5/6 but do not yet have enough to form a team in 7/8. The school is covering the enrolment fees for those who have registered to take part.



Games will be played each Monday at Headon Stadium. Students need to be in full PE gear and have shoes that don't mark the stadium floor. The times will be:

Years 3/4: Mondays between 3:30—4PM

Years 5/6: Mondays between 4—5:30PM

We really need coaches and managers too please. If you can help please let Mrs Bloomfield or the school office know as soon as possible.

## TOUCH RUGBY

Touch Rugby is the other sport on in Term 4. All games will be played on the Matamata College grounds and begin next week on Wednesday. Game details will come home separately for those registered.



This term we will have teams playing in Years 3/4, 5/6 and 7/8 and once again the school will be paying for the entry fees of our registered students.

Students need to be in sports uniform and wear sand shoes (not boots please).

## ARE YOU UP FOR THIS?

The Weet-Bix TRYathlon is back and ready. See if you're up for the challenge to swim, bike and run. Search Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon online for more.

# 2024/2025 series



## COLOUR CAMBRIDGE FUN RUN / WALK

Kids in Need Waikato is an organisation that supports children in the Waikato (including Matamata) that are in care being raised by anyone other than their parents. They supply care packs for people in need and can be accessed when needed. This weekend they are running a fun run / walk as a fundraiser that families can participate in.



An epic community event for a great cause

Kids in Need Waikato

# COLOUR CAMBRIDGE

SUN 20 OCT 2024

**A KIDS IN NEED WAIKATO FUNDRAISER**

Fun run/ walk for the whole family  
Food trucks, spot prizes

Sunday 20 Oct 2024 | Memorial Park, Cambridge

Register now! [colourcambridge.co.nz](http://colourcambridge.co.nz)

## Even More News—Kawepūrongo

### TERM 4 TOPICS

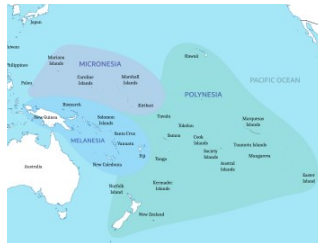
Every year we review and develop our teaching curriculum to meet the needs of our students. We have always been very proud of the curriculum we develop and the topics we teach. 2024 is no different. Each year student needs change along with their competencies and social needs. We believe over the years we have been developing an excellent curriculum that responds to this.



Important to us in the development of our students is not only academic achievement but developing resilience, empathy for others, and becoming well rounded citizens that can think for themselves, problem solve, participate physically, develop skills and an appreciation for the arts, develop a heart after God's own heart and therefore be active in their church life, and engage in society responsibly with a Christian worldview.

This term is slightly shorter but is again a very busy one. We have a number of key events across the subject areas that you can look forward to. They include the Ag, Pet and Flower Day, the Kapa Haka and Ki o Rahi Festival, our Wearable Arts night, the annual Light Party, Futsal and Touch Rugby leagues, the Bethlehem Chapman College Inter Christian School Speech and Chess Competition, the bi-annual Wellington trip for the Senior class, and then everything culminates in our end of year Christmas production on prize giving night.

In topic we turn to the Social Sciences where we are studying the Pacific. These countries are some of our closest neighbours with New Zealand being the largest country in Polynesia. Today New Zealand plays a big and important role for many of them. Some have come under New Zealand's control in the past and some, even today, are still administered by this country. Pacific Islanders are part of our make up and they influence our society. For our students we have a big role to play in understanding the culture and helping assist and problem solve issues such as climate change in the future.



Bible	Y1-3: Bible Narratives (stories) Y4: 'The Ology'. Developing detail about God's ways Y5-6: God's Story Y7-8: Real Talk All: Christmas
Core Value	Self-control
Memory Verses	From Colossians 3:10—17 Self-control: 2 Timothy 1:7
Theme	Social Science: The Pacific
Health	Body Care Real Talk (Years 7/8)
Māori	Kai in the Kura Kapa Haka Festival
The Arts	All: Wearable Arts All: Drama: Christmas Production
P.E.	Small Ball Skills Sports: Futsal and Touch Rugby

### TEACHER ONLY DAY NEXT WEEK

Please remember our last teacher only day for 2024 is coming up next week on **Friday the 25th of October**. The government has awarded each school two teacher only days per year for schools to spend time training and preparing staff for the upcoming curriculum changes the government is bringing in for the start of next year. We are hosting staff from Waipa Christian School in Te Awamutu and Southcity Christian School in Hamilton to do development together.

Friday the 25th leads into the start of Labour weekend so may give families the opportunity to take an extended long weekend if it can be made to work for your family.

We appreciate days like this can cause disruption and we apologise for this. There is a lot of change ahead and it is important that we do all we can to be well prepared and ready for these changes. Thank you for understanding.



MATAMATA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

# MI7's JENNY ENGLISH IN ALL THE KING'S MEN

Monday 16 December 6:30PM @ Matamata Baptist Church



## Even More News - Kawepūrongo

### SUMMER UNIFORM

It is now time to please be in summer uniform. In effect this simply means going from shoes to black school sandals and adding the school sunhat.

Sandals can cause a little bit of angst. In the past we have only accepted Roman sandals but we recognise the quality of these can be quite mixed now and they are not particularly comfortable. We have decided to accept black sandals with wide straps and open toes to help. It is important however not to choose fashion styled ones as this contradicts the purpose of uniforms which is to place everyone in the same presentation bracket.



We recognise that Year 8 students who are leaving for College at the end of the year may need to have different footwear for next year. If you are having to replace their footwear from last summer they may either carry on wearing their winter shoes and socks or families may buy their 2025 summer footwear and wear these. This only applies for Year 8 students and only if their sandals from last season no longer fit please.

Sunhats are part of our health and safety protocol and need to be worn as often as possible outside to help protect your children from the dangers of the New Zealand sun. We also recommend you apply sunscreen to your child at the start of the school day for added protection. Skin cancer rates are very high in New Zealand and older skin cancer sufferers often have this attributed back to habits dating back to their childhood.

Please could all families carefully name all uniform items as summer is when more items tend to get misplaced or accidentally picked up. Likewise could families please regularly check that items brought home belong to your family and not another child in the school.

### Dates for your Calendar

#### October

14th	Term 4 Starts
15th	Ag, Pet and Flower Day
21st	Ag Group Day
21st	Futsal Starts
22nd	Sports Academy
22nd	School Board Meeting
23rd	Touch Rugby Starts
24th	National Shake Out Day
25th	Teacher Only Day
28th	Labour Day
29th	Sports Academy
30th	Kapa Haka Festival
30th	Touch Rugby
31st	Parent Connect Group
31st	Light Party



## Church Community Notices

This column has been set up to support local church and Christian community events. If your church has an exciting event coming up they can advertise it here for free by sending details or advertising to [office@matamata.school.nz](mailto:office@matamata.school.nz)

Every Saturday – children/youth group and Cornerstone Bible study from 4pm followed by a shared dinner at 5pm. At Matamata Christian School, 91A Smith Street, Matamata



Parental supervision please if you have young children.

Some of our parents have got together and created a parents connect group which this year intends to meet every third week in the school library. This is an



opportunity for parents to get together and enjoy a time of community together. The next get together is on **Rāpare 31st Whiranga-ā-nuku / Thursday 31st of October between 9—10:30AM**. Come and enjoy tea and coffee together and meet other school families. Pre-schoolers are very welcome.

**THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**

**Friday 8 November 9AM—3:30PM**

**Venue to be confirmed**

**Contact Mr Paterson for more information**



# Do You Have Something We Need To Talk About?



## Matamata Christian School

### COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

#### COMMUNITY NOTE

Matamata Christian School values feedback and believes this is an important way for it to improve its performance. It believes complaints are a part of this and wishes to be able to resolve these in order to avoid anything standing in the way of it achieving its goals. Therefore anyone who may have a complaint about any part of the school life is encouraged to bring those complaints forward in a biblical manner. This means:

#### To resolve conflict -

"If your brother sins against you, go to him and show him his fault. But do it privately, just between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back. But if he will not listen to you, take one or two other persons with you, so that 'every accusation may be upheld by the testimony of two or more witnesses', as the scripture says."

– Matthew 18:15-16

#### In response to complaints -

"Remember this, my dear friends! Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry."

– James 1:19

"Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you."

– Ephesians 4:32

Please remember that complaints can be embarrassing for people. It is important to respect a person's integrity by approaching them in confidence first to resolve this rather than sharing this with others. If a complaint is about wrongdoing between students at school please do not try to resolve this directly between other parents but get the classroom teacher to resolve this between families.

If a complaint is about a School Board issue or matter please use their complaints procedures chart (available from school).

