

VISION STATEMENT

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



Weeks: **5 - 6**

Term 3 2024:
19 Here-turi-kōkā (August)

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and Perseverance**
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ENCOUNTERING THE ENCOUNTER TEAM

Recently the Senior school had the privilege of hosting for the day a small group of Chinese students from the Encounter Team. Five 9—13 year olds and their teachers spent a day being part of our Year 5—8 classes seeing how school happens in New Zealand. In the afternoon the Chinese teachers ran the Art programme for our Year 5—6 students sharing some pretty cool Chinese origami style activities.

The Encounter Team are a Christian based organisation that take Chinese students out to experience different countries. Their students are not usually Christians themselves but the team tries to mix them with Christians in the countries they visit so they can begin to experience God wherever they go. For us then it is an honour to be able to host these students and be ambassadors for God to them, as well as begin to learn a little about China and what life looks like for them in their country.

With political tensions rising in the world it has now become a lot more difficult for Chinese students to leave and visit many western countries. In fact, more students were meant to be coming on this trip but had their exit visas turned down only hours before leaving. In spite of this the Encounter Team hope to bring more students to visit here and to visit us early next year. Please pray for them.



From the Desk of the Tumuaki

As we move up to the halfway mark in the term we prepare for this year's Sports Camp out at Totara Springs. This is an exciting event that will see our Senior students pair up with those from Hamilton SDA to form a team that will take on seven other teams from around the central North Island. They will be challenged across some 40 different sports codes across the week as they battle it out to be the champions in each code. Spectators are welcome throughout the week so if you have children going out please feel free to go and watch and support.

This term our core value being developed is perseverance. This is something you can focus on alongside us at home too. Kiwi kids are often not known for their ability to stick at and persevere through something and that's something we're trying to change. When we're learning something new, to struggle a bit is good as that's when your brain is stretching and trying to make new connections. Don't be afraid of this, while it's certainly uncomfortable it tends to be when your biggest gains are made. When things are easy it doesn't take a lot of thinking and you go through more automatic motions. However, seriously having to push and think through something causes great growth. When you see your child struggling support them, encourage them, but unless it is totally beyond them altogether, don't do it for them. Let them learn and grow through it even if you need to provide a bit of support on the side.

Some call this GRIT. Please don't rob your child of the opportunities to develop this. It is so very fulfilling when achievement happens.

I like telling stories to help inspire people and get my point across so I'm going to retell some of my favourite stories I like to share over the next weeks. This week it's about an incredible Englishman by the name of William Wilberforce and what he persevered through to abolish slavery in the British Empire...

William Wilberforce was born a privileged man in 1759. He came from a wealthy family and was set up well financially when his father died when he was aged only nine. William was not a hard worker but had excellent people skills. He loved partying and was popular. He decided not to pursue the family business and went into politics. He won an important seat and was famous for his stunning speeches. However it was not until he went on a trip taking his mother and sister at age 25 that William became a Christian and realised he had been squandering his life. He became determined to change that and be a man of real purpose.

Wilberforce quickly became a man of integrity and principle and it was during this time that he was presented with the issue of the slave trade. People were being stolen from Northern Africa and were being shipped to different parts of the British Empire and forced into slavery to help British trade. Often over half of a shipment of slaves would die during the journey as a result of the appalling conditions and rampant disease on the ships. Wilberforce decided to tackle the issue of slave trade first rather than banning slavery outright as he thought this would be easier.

The anti-slavery campaign ended up consuming the rest of his life. It took 19 years of fighting people in parliament, failing in the passing of different bills and petitions, fighting the people who really stood to benefit from slavery and fighting his own ailing health before he finally made some progress in 1804. The movie 'Amazing Grace' chronicles much of this journey and the events such as the French Revolution which effectively sidelined the anti-slavery campaigns. Yet though often very despondent, William Wilberforce knew that this fight was a part of his life's mission

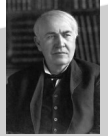
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Perseverance Quote



"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

- Thomas Edison

before God. He knew he had to persevere because he had the best chance of anyone at being successful with this.

That was just the start however. The abolition of slavery through the colonies continued to take furious campaigning. As his health weakened he had to get others to help lead the cause. Finally in 1833 after 48 years of fighting, Parliament passed the bill to abolish slavery throughout the British Empire. Three days later William Wilberforce died aged 74.

INTERESTING MCS FACTS

- *This year is our 9th ever Olympiria sports event.*
- *This school first started out of the basement of the first principal's house in Tower Road.*
- *Back then the school was called Rainbow Park Christian School.*

While Wilberforce did many other great things in his days to feed the poor, help pay the debts of those who could not pay for them themselves, and improve people's views on good Christian behaviour, the anti-slavery campaign was what stood out as his legacy. He fought to abolish slavery because this was something he believed stood between man and God. In 1831 he said to the Anti-Slavery Society, "Our motto must continue to be perseverance. And I ultimately trust the Almighty will crown our efforts with success."

So here lived a man who persevered for right and for a legacy that makes him stand out as one of God's great men. May this help challenge each of us as well so that we persevere to do the right thing at the right time for the right reason.

God bless

Prayer Requests...

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

- Please pray for the health of our students and families.
- Please continue to pray for each of our amazing students to grow strongly academically, spiritually, physically and to be emotionally connected and well balanced.
- Please pray for our Sports Camp team to perform well, be safe, and to represent God and our families fantastically as they act as ambassadors for God to others.

News - Kawepūrongo

NEW FRUIT TREES

We are thrilled to have had 17 new fruit trees donated to the school by our local Lions Club in the last few weeks. These trees fit in with our vision for developing our Permaculture programme in the school.

We have been given peach, plum, apricot, nectarine, apple and pear trees to plant. Space has been made for them around the perimeter of the school and we will be planting them soon.

We have borrowed a post hole borer to dig holes to plant them and we are very grateful to one of our parents, Nic Muir from Total Pro Landscapes, for being willing to prepare holes for planting for us.

Our students will be planting these trees over the next few weeks.



CARPARK SAFETY

Recently we had a close call in the school carpark when a young child walked along behind parked vehicles as a parent began to reverse out. Fortunately the driver saw them in time but it did leave a number of people a little rattled.



Where possible, can we please encourage you to park on the footpath side of the carpark and instruct your children to walk up or down the footpath rather than in the carpark itself. If not possible please try to cross your children over with you. Remember research says that children do not become competent at judging traffic or vehicle speed until as late as age 14! And of course please continue to be vigilant yourself in the carpark.

AG, PET AND FLOWER DAY

This year's Ag, Pet and Flower Day is set for Tuesday the 15th of October. This may sound like a long way off but really isn't.



Ag Day is available for those students who wish to compete and they can do so with a lamb, calf or goat. More details about this can be found on page 5.



Pet Day is available for any student not participating in Ag Day. If you have a loved pet at home and your child would like to bring them along for the morning they can enter them in the competition. We invite one of our local vets in to come and judge our animals. They look at how well their pet is looked after, the relationship your child has with them (if appropriate), how involved they are in their care and what they know about their pet. They need to fill out a pet diary over a four week period in the lead up to the day. These diaries are available from the school office and will need to be started by Monday the 16th of September at the latest.



This year we bring back Flower Day again. This is now a bi-annual event and is a chance for students to bring out their creative skills. Again, this is for all students not involved in Ag Day. Because the day is the second day back after the school holidays please look out for flowers and foliage they can bring around the end of the school holidays. More details will come home about the categories they can compete in with the Week 9—10 newsletter.



In the meantime can we please ask families to indicate on the return slip below any pets that you would like to send.

MCS AGRICULTURAL & PET DAY - 15th October

If your child is intending to take part in this year's Ag & Pet Day please fill in this slip and return it to the school office by **Monday 16th September**. Alternatively, you can complete a permission slip on SkoolLoop. This information is needed to plan the day and organise judges.

Child's Name: _____ Child's Age: _____

Type of Animal: _____ Animal's Name: _____

Animal's Date of Birth: _____ (Compulsory for Ag animals)



Even More News—Kawepūrongo

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Our annual school Cross Country is coming up and is this year part of our Olympiria events. It is scheduled for **Thursday the 5th of September** with a postponement date of Friday the 6th of September. Like last year it will once again be held on the Burgess farm at 200 Papatangi Road (on the left by the duck pond).



Our students are building up their fitness at school but would do well to continue this at home too.

All whānau are welcome to attend and with so many students we do need help with transport please. Though it is still nearly three weeks away, with Sports Camp on next week, we need to be thinking in advance. We usually have a lot of parents come out to watch so please can we ask you to consider helping us with transport too?

We will be leaving school for the Burgess farm at **12:30PM on the 5th of September.**

TEACHER ONLY DAY

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. Our last one for 2024 has been set for **Friday the 25th of October.** This is 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 that 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 your understanding and continued support.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DEARNS FAMILY

After a long wait the Dearn's family have recently been able to welcome the arrival of their new baby, Oliver Dearn's.

We know there has been a lot of excitement around this and we are just excited for the family too. We can't wait to see more of Oliver, especially in five years time!



DAIRY FARMER SURVEY

Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research is conducting a survey for the dairy farmers in the Waihou-Piako catchment, as a part of a research programme. If you are a farmer in this region they are looking for your help please.

The survey contributes to their research into helping dairy farmers gain a greater sense of control over the decisions they make, in implementing voluntary environmentally sustainable farming practices.

Please look at the ad below and consider whether you can help.



WANTED Dairy farmers in the Waihou-Piako catchment

Take a survey on decision making on your farm.

Earn **TWO Woolworths vouchers** for your time: \$50 for the first survey and \$150 for a follow up survey next year.

Join the many dairy farmers who have already participated.



To take the survey go to

www.landcareresearch.co.nz/Walkatodairy



CROSS COUNTRY 2024

Yes, I can help transport ____ (number of children you can take please) to the Burgess farm. I have a full seat belt for each child, have a full driver's licence and will have a WOF and registration for the vehicle I am driving.

I can be available to leave school at 12:30PM.

If needed I can / cannot bring children back to school again afterwards too (please circle which).

Signed: _____ Name: _____



Even More News—Kawepūrongo

FINAL WEEK OF NETBALL

We have arrived at our final week of Netball for the year and wish our players all the best for their finals games. It's been a great season with some very impressive results. Our Intermediate team has regularly taken on College teams and played quite convincingly against them. Thank you again to our seasons coaches; Mrs Uerata, Mrs Park and Miss Wellington.



Ag Day Lambs



Newly born lambs available for Ag Day from 20th July through until September

- Vaccinated
- Suffolk cross breed (mostly patchy coloured)
- Boys and girls available
- Girls & wethers (fixed boys) available to be returned at the end of the Ag Day season or can also be kept. Unfortunately, rams cannot be returned.
- \$10 each

Please text **Karen Lind 021 035 8548** with your preferred pick-up date/s and if you are wanting a boy or girl lamb.

Ag Day Goat Kids

- Newly born kids available for Ag Day from early July and into August
- Milking breed goats
- Boys and girls available



Available to be returned at the end of the Ag Day season or can also be kept
\$20 each

Please text **Chantelle Fletcher 027 427 8976** with your preferred pick-up date/s, if you are wanting a boy or girl kid goat and if you have a preference for a white or coloured goat.

MATHSBUDDY

Sometimes we get asked about extra tuition for students in areas such as Maths. Years ago we ran a trial using MathsBuddy (see below) and were very impressed with it. It is relevant for New Zealand and caters for Years 1–13, so we recommend it for College too. Feel free to try their free trial on offer at present and see what you think. If you have been thinking of tutoring their tutorials are good to follow and could well work out a lot cheaper than getting a tutor.



MathsBuddy
YOUR ONLINE MATHS TUTOR

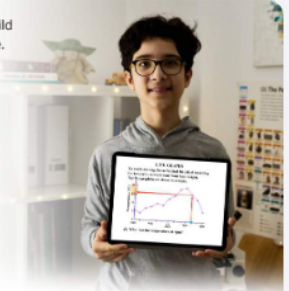


Supercharge Your Child's Capabilities with MathsBuddy

To speak to someone about MathsBuddy, call us at 0800 299 182

MathsBuddy is here to help your child succeed and build maths confidence.

With over 1,400 video tutorials and 50,000 interactive questions and worksheets, MathsBuddy helps guide your children lesson by lesson allowing them to pause, rewind and repeat all or part of any video tutorial until they fully understand it.



Get started with a **free trial** today!

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- Interactive questions and worksheets to test understanding of topics
- Students receive immediate feedback on their answers, helping them to correct mistakes in real-time
- Available 24/7, giving students the flexibility to work when it's most convenient for them
- Automatic marking and progress reports to highlight areas needing support

Start your MathsBuddy FREE trial today at www.mathsbuddy.co.nz

AG DAY FUN!

Ag Day this year is in the first week of Term 4 on Tuesday 15th October. This is an opportunity for children to show the bond, care and training they have given their pet Calf, Lamb or Goat. **Now is the time to be considering choosing your pet.** Calves must be born between 1st June–20th September (Early Calf cut-off is 26th July) and Lambs/Goats must be born between 1st July–20th September.



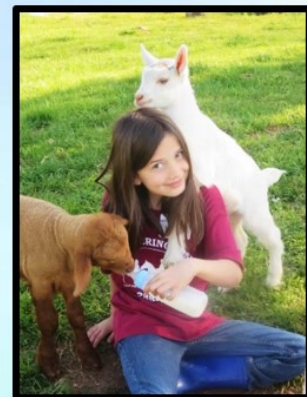
Springs.

Ag Days are not just for rural families! **We would encourage every family to consider the possibility of your children being involved.** It's a wonderful

opportunity for children to learn diligence, perseverance and responsibility as they care for and train their animal. All animals like company of their own kind, so if you have more than one child at school perhaps consider each of your children having an Ag pet.

For those children keen for further opportunities to compete or show their pet, the **Matamata A & P Show** will be held on October 12th and **Matamata Group Day**, for students of our local schools, will be on Monday the 21st of October at Totara

Information on looking after and training your Calf, Lamb or Goat is available from the School Office and Sarah is also happy to offer you help and advice.



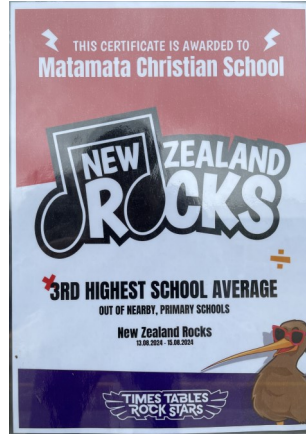
Even More News—Kawepūrongo

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Last week our school started the New Zealand Times Tables Rock Stars competition which runs until the 13th of September. Over 700 New Zealand schools have entered and for us this means involving our students from Years 2—8.

After Week 1 of the competition our school is placed 165th but is the third highest in our region which includes schools within 50 kilometres of us!

We are pretty excited to be involved in this competition and very much look forward to the next few weeks. Please encourage your children with their participation and practise at home. After all, the better they are at this has a direct impact on their overall Mathematics confidence and performance.



Above: Our students running 1st, 2nd and 3rd in their classes after Week 1. In the front row are our three in 1st, 2nd and 3rd across the whole school too—Rafael 1st, Johanna 2nd and Zander 3rd.



WORLD VISION CELEBRATES THE 40 HOUR CHALLENGE

At Assembly last week we were thrilled to have Paige from World Vision come to present our school with awards following this year's 40 Hour Challenge. We have tended to subscribe to the 20 Hour Challenge where our students have enjoyed participating to raise money for those facing hardship overseas.

This year our students raised just over \$2 500 which has gone to climate change development in Timor Leste after some aggressive natural disasters. This country is in urgent need of help to adapt and regenerate forests that will help protect the country and work toward sustainability.

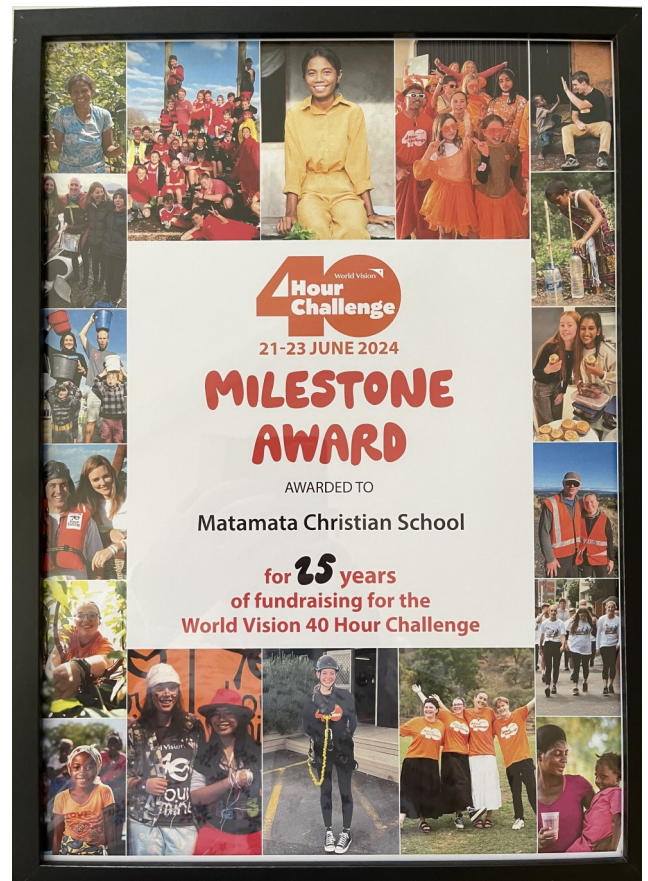
For our students efforts the school has been awarded World Vision's bronze award for achieving over \$2 500 and has been granted another special award for being involved in their challenges for the last 25 years!

Well done to everyone who has been a part of these challenges!

World Vision



Grant Baydon
National Director,
World Vision New Zealand





is coming to
Matamata!!

Starting Mid July 2024

**Mara
\$20**

**Kai
\$30**

**Whanau
\$40**

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save money on your
veggies!**



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Even More News - Kawepūrongo

SITUATIONS VACANT

The Matamata Christian School Board is pleased to offer part-time employment for a secretary who would do minute taking and meeting organisation for the Board and its Board meetings.



The Board has approximately eight—nine evening meetings per year on a Tuesday evening 7—10PM. The Board needs a minute taker for these meetings who can record the details of discussions and decisions, while maintaining confidentiality.

Up to an hour a month may also be necessary prior to or following meetings to prepare and distribute information to Board members.

A fixed hourly rate of \$30 per hour has been set.

Please go to the school website vacancies page to apply—www.matamata.school.nz/vacancies

Dates for your Calendar

August

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 20th | Netball |
| 20th | Board Meeting |
| 21st | Sports Academy |
| 22nd | Gymnastics Regionals |
| 22nd | Olympirua |
| 26th—30th | Sports Camp |
| 28th | Fruit Tree Planting at Permaculture |
| 28th | Sports Academy |
| 29th | Parent Connect Group |
| 29th | Olympirua |



September

| | |
|------|---|
| 4th | Friendship Circle (Y5/6) |
| 4th | Sports Academy |
| 5th | Olympirua—School Cross Country |
| 5th | PCE Meeting |
| 6th | Cross Country Postponement Date |
| 11th | Sports Academy |
| 12th | Inter School Cross Country (by invite) |
| 18th | Open Day |
| 18th | Sports Academy |
| 19th | Parent Connect Group |
| 24th | School Board Meeting |
| 25th | Getwise Financial Literacy Programme (Y4—8) |
| 25th | Sports Academy |
| 25th | Learning Journal Night |
| 26th | Elgregoe Show |
| 27th | End of Term 3 Assembly |
| 27th | End of Term 3 |

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

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 at the new day of **Rāpare 29th Here-turi-kōkā / Thursday 29th of August between 9—10:30AM**. Come and enjoy tea and coffee together and meet other school families. Pre-schoolers are very welcome.

THE MARRIAGE COURSE

Begins Thursday July 25th, every Thursday night for 8 weeks 7pm - 9pm @ YWAM Matamata



Cost: \$80 per couple including dessert & manual
Childcare provided

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).

