

VISION STATEMENT

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

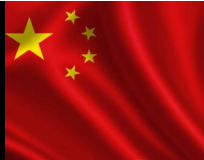


Weeks: **3 - 4**

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

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New Staff
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Coming
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SPORTS CAMP PREPARATIONS TAKE CENTRE STAGE

Last week we were thrilled to host our Sports Camp partners Hamilton SDA over two days as our two Senior classes stepped up their training for Sports Camp later in the term.

For well over 20 years Matamata Christian School has participated in the Town and Country version of Sports Camp. We form a team of 36 students with Hamilton SDA whom we have had a close partnership with between our Senior classes for nearly 10 years. We have come together for Sports Camp and to do our bi-annual Northland New Zealand History trip. Our students have become quite close over the years.

Last week's Sports Camp training event is designed to help our students bond together, build their sporting skills, run trials for selection, plan our event participation, learn the team chant and begin to develop strategy.

Sports Camp runs from **Monday the 26th through to Friday the 30th of August**. It is exclusively for our Year 7/8 students who will look to be one of the 22 selected to attend from our school. The other 14 will be selected from Hamilton SDA.

Our team will be up against seven other teams from schools based around the central North Island. Our team will compete across some 40 different sports codes in a very well organised and run event at Totara Springs.

If your child is selected to be part of the team the cost will be \$320. This can be paid immediately or across the remainder of the school year in regular payments. Fees must please be fully paid before the end of the school year on Tuesday the 17th of December.

More information will come home about Sports Camp for students who have been selected for the team. All other students will attend school as per normal.



From the Desk of the Tumuaki

It's hard to believe we are already into August isn't it? Even the term seems to be going quickly. As usual we have a lot going on this term especially with our Olympiria and Sports Camp coming up for Year 7/8 students. Make sure you stay part of the action with us, it's always fun and it's great to watch kids excel.

We always treat Term 3 as our best term for pushing through in learning. While it can be a bit dreary outside at times it also tends to be the term with the least classroom disruptions and therefore maximum opportunities to learn.

Because of this we ask you for your help to try and have everyone at school everyday possible. One of our key targets this year is to get in the habit of having every child at school every day they possibly can be. The government of course is targeting this and demanding schools track and pursue unnecessary absences each day. Their target is to have 70% of students at school for 90% of the time. While we were already achieving this last year, when we submitted our targets this year they asked us to improve upon this. Our school then set a target of 80% attendance for 90% of the time. Currently we are tracking at 73%.

As I've said before every day at school is important. In our core subject areas what is taught one day is built upon the next. When your child is away they miss out one way or another and this makes it more challenging when they come back. So my message to you please is to have your children at school every day that is possible.

Having said that please be very conscious of your child's health. I know I keep repeating this message but if your child is sick, (and you know your child best and will identify when they are), please keep them home to heal and recover. Sick children at school don't learn, they are at risk of spreading their illnesses and they can take longer to recover. They are better to have one or two days off than suffer a week of low function and performance.

Please evaluate when you think your child is sick and needs to stay home and when, in your mind, they need to develop resilience and push through this. Developing resilience is important too as we don't want to be developing an attitude of taking time off whenever students think they would just like a day off. That's not the future workforce or work ethic we want to develop.

The attendance goals allow for children who need time off for genuine illnesses, hence the leniency of being at school for 90% of the time. What this doesn't allow for is taking days off for a day with Mum or Dad, going shopping, or going on holiday. It especially doesn't allow for playing online or time off because children just want time off. Unfortunately this needs to be stated as the country struggles with these common excuses.

Recently I have been having many discussions with parents about overseas trips. Please hear and understand where I come from on this as I am not necessarily against trips. Overseas experiences can build valuable memories and learning into children especially when they are just that—experiences. Going to new places and experiencing history,

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Perseverance Quote

"It's hard to beat a person who never gives up."



- Babe Ruth

culture, the way other people live, marvel at the world God created and even serve those who need us makes for phenomenal, even life-impacting experiences. This is quite different though from playing in Queensland theme parks or sunbathing in the Pacific Islands. These trips also have their place but more so in school holidays rather than school time.

So please help us this term and help your children to be able to maximise the learning that is planned. This term offers a big opportunity for every student to develop academically, spiritually, physically and socially. Consider the school's vision statement in this too—*Equipped for life, prepared for eternity.* That's what we really want most for our children isn't it?

God bless

Alistair Paterson

INTERESTING MCS FACTS

- *The school roll is at 119.*
- *The previous highest roll was 115 back in 2005.*
- *Attendance in Term 2 was 73% attending 90% of the time.*
- *This was up from 67% in Term 2 2023.*

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 bond well together, to prepare well and to represent God and our families fantastically as they act as ambassadors for God and our community.
- Please pray for our applications with the Ministry of Education for roll growth and to extend to Years 9 and 10.
- And pray please for wisdom and God's direction for our school boards to be able to plan and prepare for future growth, and the resources needed for this.

News - Kawepūrongo



ENCOUNTER TEAM VISIT

Tomorrow we are very pleased to welcome and host a group of five students and adults from China for the school day. The Encounter Team visited us once before and were billeted for a number of days a few years before Covid. It was a well received visit.

This year Encounter will bring a much smaller group and will only be with us for the day as they kick off their New Zealand experiences. While with us tomorrow they will experience the Year 5/6 and Year 7/8 classes and in turn will have their students teach ours a little about their culture. This should be an excellent experience for our students.

KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE

This term in our Health programme our students will be doing our bi-annual Keeping Ourselves Safe programme.



Within it students learn how to be good friends, how to develop responsibility, will cover online safety and anti-bullying, and will learn about the different types of abuse. They learn how to keep themselves safe and how to be a good friend to others.

While there is a legal requirement for us to teach this we do have a conservative bent in our approach and we are very pro family. We always desire to build family up.

Last week we had a parent meeting to share what will be taught over the term at each class level. Thank you to those who came. If you missed this meeting please feel free to come in and chat with your child's teacher or have a look at what will be taught online. We will not cover all of the content you can find online. Because of our conservative approach we will be carefully tailoring the material to suit our students. All Keeping Ourselves Safe units and information about the programme can be found on the Police website by doing a quick search for Keeping Ourselves Safe.



REAL TALK

This term Year 7 and 8 students will begin their Health and Bible unit called Real Talk. We shared about this with you when we did the parent consultation and survey last year over our Health and PE programmes. Real Talk is a holistic unit that helps our senior students explore who they are, what God created them to be and within it leads them through an understanding of pubertal changes across the six month unit. This is the first time we have done this course so we are trialling it to measure its success. Parents of senior students can expect to hear more information about this during the unit and in the coming weeks.



Want a Great Advertising Feature?

Your ad could be here reaching our school and Christian community each school week

- Up to 20 issues over 12 months in print and on our website
- Each issue goes to more than 80 families or groups
- Full colour



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Contact office@matamata.school.nz or phone 888 5444

OLYMPIRUA OPENING CEREMONY

In the first week of the term we celebrated our opening ceremony for our 9th ever Olympirua on a spectacularly cool and foggy morning. The Olympirua is our interpretation of the Olympics within our school and involves all our students competing in track and field events, and the cross country over the term. Students represent their house teams and compete for our famous cardboard medals within their class groups.

The Opening Ceremony involved our students:

- marching into our MCS Stadium
- chanting their house team chants
- singing the New Zealand National Anthem
- hearing an opening speech and challenge
- reciting our Olympirua Code for competition
- having our Olympirua torch run around the perimeter of the field in relay form
- lighting the Olympirua flame to 'Let the Games begin!'

Events will generally be held on Thursday afternoons. Spectators are very welcome.



Even More News—Kawepūrongo

WELCOME TO REBEKAH WELLINGTON

We are very pleased to announce that Rebekah Wellington has recently joined our staffing team and will be an office assistant to Mrs Thurlow in the school office for one day per week on a Friday.

Miss Wellington may be familiar to some as she is Mrs Uerata's younger sister and has this year been part of the Netball coaching team here at school.



Miss Wellington started her position in the first week of term and we welcome her into our school family.

NEW SPORTS ACADEMY DAYS FOR TERM 3

Sports Academy is underway again for Term 3 and has shifted to after school on a Wednesday afternoon. Times remain the same running from 3:15—4:30PM.



We apologise that Sports Academy days need to be shifted in different terms but this is to work in with new sports events that crop up and when they are played, and with the availability of our awesome volunteer parents that run Sports Academy for us.

OOPS SORRY!

In the last newsletter we reported that Tima Mataitoga and Isla Uerata had been recognised at Netball by the Matamata Netball Committee as two students who would make their team of 10 across the grade. Sadly, we missed recognising Gabriela Nicholls who was also recognised. Thus three players would come from Matamata Christian School in the Committee's 10 recognised most valuable players! What amazing recognition girls—very well done!



HOCKEY AWARDS

At the end of the Olympiria Opening Ceremony we celebrated the successful Hockey season that our three teams had in Term 2, and some of the excellent individual achievements too.



As reported in the last issue of the newsletter our Year 2-3 players finished 9th in their opening season while the Year 4 team won the Junior division, and our Year 5/6 team finished first equal with Walton in the Senior division. These were incredible achievements. Additionally Zander van Deventer won the award for the best senior boy player of the year.



**The Hawks—
Year 2– 3.
9th in the
Juniors**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND US YOUR STICKERS

Recently we sent home charts that can be used to collect Yummy apple stickers if your family buys these. When collected each of these stickers can be used to cash in on free sports gear for our school. See the promo below and remember to ask grandparents to get involved if they purchase Yummy apples too. Note that while there is a close off date for sticker collection stickers can be collected all year round for the following year too.



COLLECT YUMMY STICKERS FOR YOUR SCHOOL'S SHARE OF \$200,000 FREE SPORTS GEAR

It's easy to play! Just purchase Yummy apples from your local New World, PAK 'n SAVE or Four Square supermarket, collect the individual Yummy apple stickers and cut-out labels on Yummy apple bags or punnet barcodes. Then take them along to school for a share of \$200,000 sports gear!



The Eagles—Years 5—6. Combined winners of the Seniors.



The Falcons—Year 4. Winners of the Juniors Series.



Even More News—Kawepūrongo

WANTED AGAIN —EMPTY SOFT DRINK BOTTLES

This term in Permaculture our older students are doing bottle art so we are again in search of a good number of empty 1.5l or 2.25l soft drink bottles (not milk bottles though). If you have any you need to throw out over the next few weeks we'd be really keen to have them please.



FUEL FOR SCHOOLS

We want to express our grateful thanks to our farming families who have nominated Matamata Christian School to be recipients of rewards in the Fuel for Schools programme.



Under the programme businesses and farms that bulk buy their fuel from Fern are eligible to have 50 cents of their purchase from every 100 litres of fuel donated to the school. Once this adds up to \$1 000 the school can choose to have resources gifted to us from sports, technology, literacy, music and Vegepod packages. Last year we had free sports gear given to us. Presently our new total is up to \$168.89.

Special thanks go to the following generous businesses and families:

A & A Thorne-George Partners
MA & RJ Thorne-George
B & C Anderton Limited
Brackley Dairy Limited
Burgess Farm Limited
LM & NE Dodds
TJ & KE Vowles Family Trust



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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

- o 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.

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.



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

Dates for your Calendar

August

6th	Encounter Team Visit for Y5—8
6th	Netball
7th	Sports Academy
8th	Parent Connect Group
8th	Olympirua
13th	Netball
14th	Sports Academy
15th	Olympirua
20th	Netball
20th	School Board Meeting
21st	Sports Academy
22nd	Gymnastics Regionals
22nd	Olympirua
26th—30th	Sports Camp
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
10th	School Board Meeting
11th	Sports Academy
12th	Inter School Cross Country (by invite)
18th	Sports Academy
19th	Parent Connect Group
25th	Sports Academy
25th	Learning Journal Night
26th	Elgregoe Show

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 8th Here-turi-kōkā / Thursday 8th of August between 9—10:30AM**. Come and enjoy tea and coffee together and meet other school families. Pre-schoolers are very welcome.



SUBWAY
PLAYBOOK
THE SUBWAY SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMME

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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).

