

## VISION STATEMENT

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



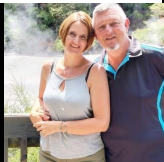
**MATAMATA  
CHRISTIAN  
SCHOOL**  
TE KURA KARAITIANA  
O MATAMATA  
**TRUST AND OBEY**

Weeks: **3 - 4**

Term 2 2025:  
12 Haratua (May)

### IN THIS ISSUE:

**A New  
Teacher Arrives  
See p3**



**Northland Highlights**

**See p4&5**



**Time to Op Shop**

**See p6**



## STUDYING OUR EARLIEST HISTORY IN THE NORTH

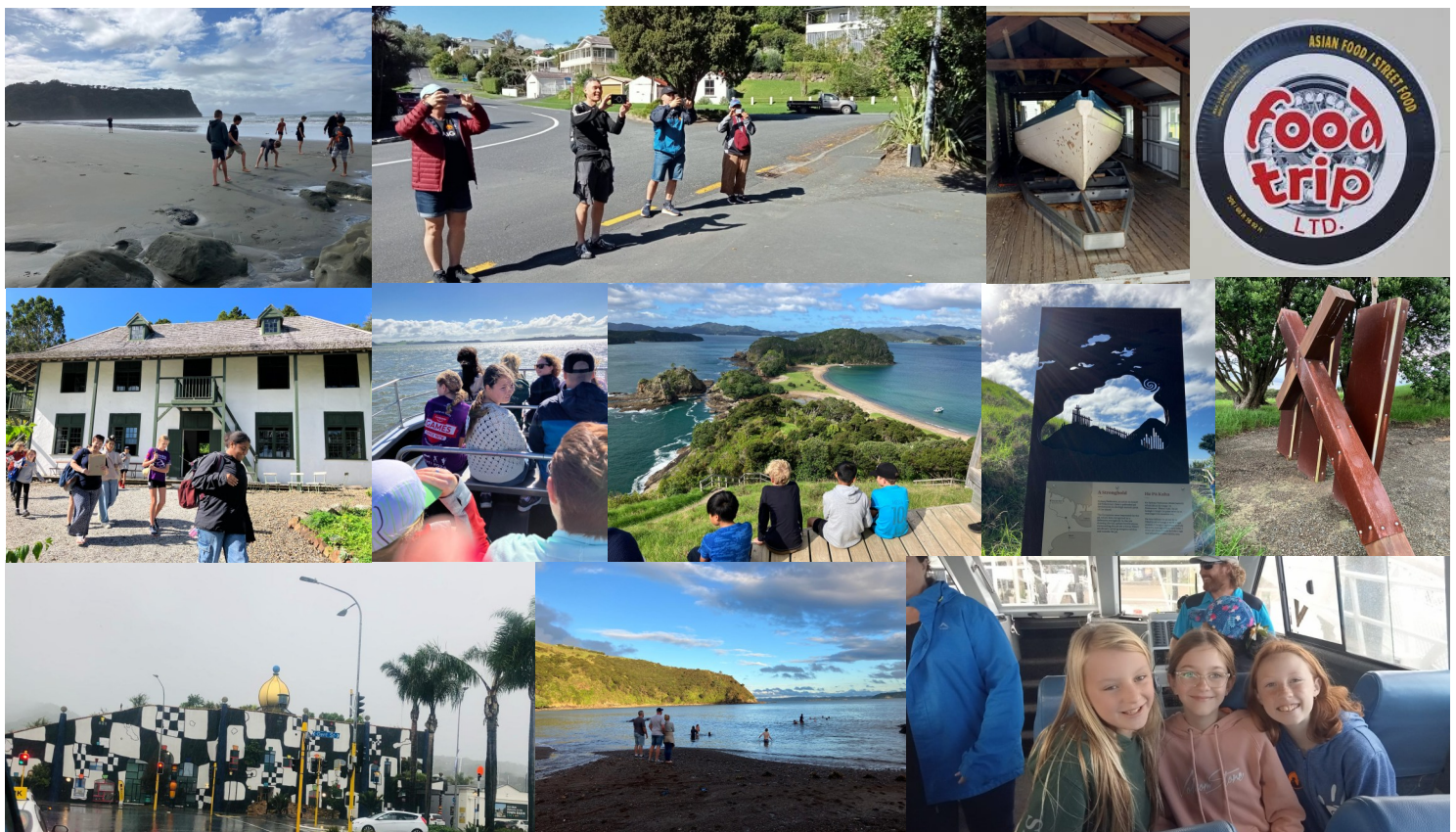
In the first week of term our Senior class ventured to the far north to explore some of New Zealand's earliest history. After encountering a round of torrential rain during our travel to Russell, the weather cleared for the remainder of our time allowing us to appreciate the true beauty of the Bay of Islands (we hear the weather system moved down to visit the Waikato instead!).

We shared our time with a small group from Whakatāne SDA School who had been asking to be included on our trip. From this some awesome new friendships were formed between our group and theirs and we look forward to seeing them again.

Our students had many experiences including the Hundertwasser Art Museum in Whangārei, Waitangi, Kemp House and the Stone Store, Marsden Cross where the Christian message was preached for the first time in this country, Pompallier House Printery, visiting the oldest church in New Zealand which included bullet holes in the side of the building, Hongi Heke's flagpole, Robertson Island where we retraced Captain Cook's first steps in the Bay of Islands, and a stunning boat ride exploring the outer bays and watching some endangered species of birds nesting. Along with all these places came the unique stories that went with them that all helped define New Zealand as the country we are today.

Huge thanks go to all our amazing parent supporters that we had and the efforts of Food Trip owned by the Ugalde family from our school who cooked all the food. Darwin had pre cooked all our meals and brought them up to restaurant class before sending them along to camp with us where Frenzy did the final details. The food was stunning and a real talking point! Most of us are looking forward to visiting Food Trip to experience some of their fine food again.

*Many of these pictures are courtesy of our parents. See more photo highlights on pages 4 and 5.*





## From the Desk of the Tumuaki

It's been an exciting start to the term with our Senior class history camp to Northland last week. This is always an amazing experience and it was great to be able to run our 9th trip for this and to have such an awesome bunch of students and parents to take.

I want to thank everyone for accommodating our Teacher Only Day last Friday. We recognise that this provides challenges for different families but it is appreciated. We were involved in whole school Mathematics development with the Ministry of Education around the new Mathematics Curriculum that has been introduced this year. We have been teaming up with three other Christian Schools to work through this—Southcity Christian School, Waipa Christian School and Hamilton SDA. This development is proving to be very valuable.

There is a lot on in this very short term. Please read through the events and keep up to date each time a new newsletter comes out as many of these things affect you and we don't want you to miss out.

### Truthfulness

This term our core value is truthfulness. This is something we welcome you to assist us with by working on at home too. As a core value it is an essential one as it is an important godly trait and is one that helps form and shape our reputation. During the term I hope to talk more about this with you and share stories that you can discuss at home too. Today's story is about Elisha's servant Gehazi who did a terribly dishonest thing.

### Gehazi from 2 Kings 5

For background to the events of Gehazi read with your family the amazing event of Naaman being healed of leprosy from 2 Kings 5:1—18. This was an amazing healing that took place as having leprosy was a really major thing back in these times. This story has a sour side to it though and it comes from Gehazi, the servant of Elisha after Naaman sets off to return home. Gehazi is driven by greed and sets off after him with a lie to tell. Read on in 2 Kings 5:19—27 and discuss these questions together with your children:

Why did Gehazi go back and see Naaman?

What did he tell Naaman?

Why do you think he did this?

What did Elisha ask Gehazi?

What was the punishment that God provided for Gehazi?

How does this make you feel about the consequences of Gehazi's actions?

God used Elisha to help heal Naaman of his leprosy. After he was healed, Naaman was so thankful, he offered Elisha a gift, but Elisha refused to take it. Later, Elisha's servant, Gehazi, ran after Naaman and pretended that Elisha had changed his mind and did want a gift after all. Naaman happily gave Gehazi silver and clothing. But God showed Elisha everything that had happened, and how Gehazi had lied. The punishment for his deceitfulness was the awful and dreaded disease leprosy – the very thing Naaman had been healed of. As a result Gehazi not only lost the trust of his master, but he also lost his health.

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## Truthfulness Quote

*Truth never damages a cause that is just."*



**- Mahatma Gandhi**

The impact of this was a really high price to pay for Gehazi. Before we tell lies to get something we want, we must remember that lying will not please God or our parents. The point then is that it is not worth gaining any material possessions if it means we lose the trust of others and cause God to be disappointed with us.

Let's really help our children to see the value of truthfulness.

God bless

Alistair Paterson

*My thanks go to [kidsofintegrity.com](http://kidsofintegrity.com) for their story ideas here.*

## Prayer Requests...

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

- Please pray for the approval of the consenting process for our new classroom block, that there will be no barriers and that our classrooms will be approved.
- Please pray the Ministry of Education will also now look favourably on our request to move into Years 9 and 10 starting in 2026.
- Please pray for the granting of finances for us to be able to bring in the final further classrooms that we want in order to be prepared for the Junior High School levels.
- Please pray for a successful Friends and Founders Day, one that glorifies God and brings all our parents and families together in unity for the future.
- Please pray for safety over upcoming events and that our students will be outstanding ambassadors for God, our families and school at these.
- And please pray for Mrs Stroebel as she joins our team this week. Pray that everything falls into place for her and her husband in setting up and adapting to the way things happen at school and in New Zealand.

## News - Kawepūrongo

### WELCOME IN MRS STROEBEL

We've been waiting awhile but this Wednesday we look forward to welcoming in our new Junior class teacher, Mrs Stroebel.

Mrs Stroebel and her husband landed in Auckland yesterday and have travelled to stay with her brother in Rotorua for a time.

Thanks to your prayers their visas came through in a timely fashion enabling their arrival this week. They are having their first few days here getting set up in New Zealand and Mrs Stroebel will have her first day with us this Wednesday. This Thursday and Friday she, along with our Year 4—8 teachers, will be going to Rotorua for training for the new BSLA Reading programme being rolled out throughout the rest of the school over the rest of the year. This is part of the government's new structured literacy programme.

Mrs Stroebel will be taking over the Junior class officially from next Monday the 19th of May.

### THANK YOU AND FAREWELL TO MISS THOMASEN

With the impending arrival of Mrs Stroebel it is time for us to farewell Miss Thomasen. Miss Thomasen started with us at the start of 2024 and has done just over five terms with us. She will officially finish this Friday the 16th of May.

Miss Thomasen will initially take a break from teaching for a small time but is hoping to get back into a role in special education or RTLB again. This is an area she is very highly qualified in and a place where her skills are especially well placed.

We want to thank Miss Thomasen for the time she has given us and our students and for the fond memories we have. She has brought many special qualities to the role for which we are particularly grateful. We really do want to wish her the very best for the future and we hope to see her again very soon.



### FRIENDS AND FOUNDERS DAY

Our annual Friends and Founders Day celebrations are coming up next week on **Tuesday the 20th of May**.

This is an important day in our calendar as it celebrates God's faithfulness in the school and celebrates those who have gone before us to make this school what it is in its 37 year history.

We celebrate with two key events in the day. We start with a pastor's breakfast where church leaders from all our local churches are invited to a special cooked breakfast. We share with them what is happening in the school and ask them to pray for us before they head off for work. Invitations have been sent out so please encourage your churches leadership team to come.

The second key event happens at night and is for our whole school community. We put on a free burger dinner for all our school community before having a quick AGM highlighting what is happening in the school and what we are focusing on, and then have an amazing guest speaker while our children watch a movie and enjoy treats.

With all that has been happening in the school over the last 12 months there is much to talk about—roll growth, classroom developments, new buildings and the drive for Years 9 and 10.

This is always a great night and we are thrilled to have always had nearly every family at this. This year's speaker is former parent Bryce Anderton. The Anderton's had their whole family go through the school and Bryce is a local farmer and regular church preacher. Bryce's story is fascinating and you can expect to be challenged.

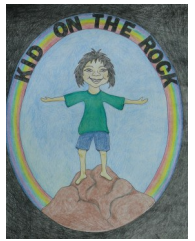
We really want you to be here. This is always an awesome community night and one not to be missed. Please note that children cannot be dropped off for the night, everyone needs to come as a family please.

In this next week look out for an email requesting your dinner order and dietary needs. Please fill this in and return it to school as soon as possible to help us plan for the night.

### FRIENDS AND FOUNDERS DAY REQUEST FOR HELP

To help us continue to make each Friends and Founders Day a memorable one we are looking for some help please. We would be really keen for anyone who may be able to help us please oversee the day, another one or two to help cook food for the pastor's breakfast, and a few who would be willing to help us bar-be-que some burger patties and help prepare burgers at night.

If you are in a position to help us next **Tuesday the 20th of May** please let Sarah in the school office know.



## Friends and Founders Day

A celebration of 37 years of God's faithfulness in the school

And you're invited!

**Burgers, movie and treats for the kids.**

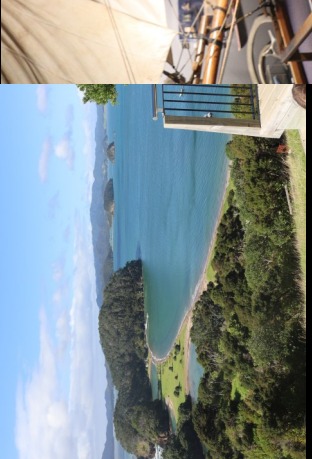
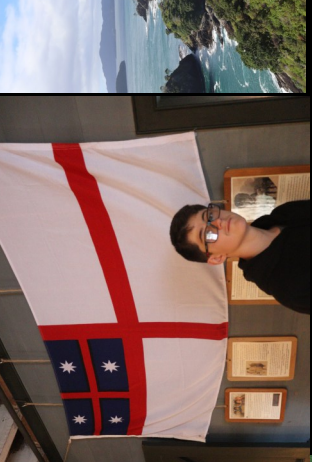
**AGM for the adults — Burgers, a quick chat about what's happening in the school, and a special guest speaker, Bryce Anderton.**

**Set aside the date — Tuesday the 20th of May from 6PM. Please come and join in with us.**

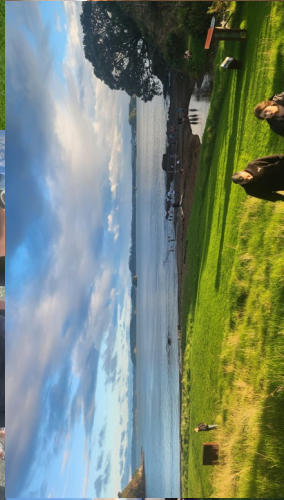
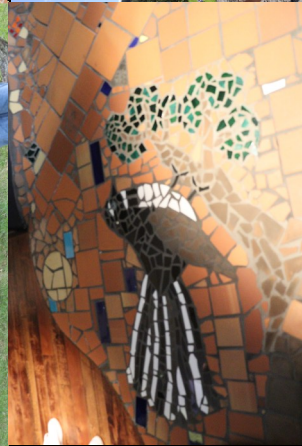
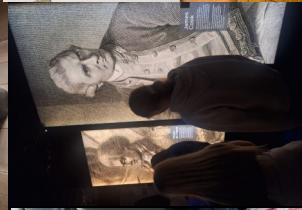




# *Year 7/8 Northland History Trip*









## News - Kawepūrongo

### IT'S OP SHOP TIME!

Each year in May we get a turn to run our local op shop for a week. This is a tremendous fundraiser for the school which allows us to take all the profits raised once the weekly rental of the premises is taken out. The school has traditionally done very well out of this.

Our turn for this is next week and runs from **Monday the 19th to Friday the 23rd of May.**

In order for this to be a success we really need your help with two things please:

1. If you are having a clean out at home and have items that you are not trying to sell yourself and are willing to donate, we would be very grateful to receive these please. These can be brought to school from now until the 19th of May, and after the 19th dropped straight off to the Op Shop at the Rawhiti end of Arawa Street.
2. We need lots of help through the week of Monday the 19th to Friday the 23rd of May to run the shop. We need to have at least three people running the shop at a time. If you can please spare some time, even if only an hour or two, let Sarah in the school office know, or text Maria McGhie directly on 021 024 82307. Maria is in charge of this event for us again this year.

### TECH ARTS CHANGES

This year the money we raise at the Op Shop will help us develop our own Tech Arts facilities. Tech Arts starts at Year 7 and 8 and will include Years 9 and 10 if we are granted the chance to expand into these levels. Starting late last year we took over the delivery of our Tech Arts programme instead of outsourcing this to the local Intermediate. We have fine tuned the programme and made a number of changes:

- Tech Arts now focuses on three core components instead of multiple subjects. We have brought it back to Food Tech, Hard Materials such as Woodwork, and we are reintroducing Soft Materials such as Sewing. Over the years subjects such as Art, Social Studies and Science had been added in but we have removed these from the Tech Arts banner as they are already covered in our classroom programmes. This year Year 7 and 8 students have been re-included into our school's Great Art Swap after a year away from it. For all classes within the school the Great Art Swap includes Visual Art, Dance and Robotics.



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- Tech Arts is now run across three full days per term (usually three Thursdays of a term) instead of 1 1/2 hours per week with our students walking to the Intermediate for each session. Students will still go to the Intermediate for Food Tech and Hard Materials to use their facilities, but it will be for full days each time. The three days is the equivalent of the original 1 1/2 hours per week but is a more efficient use of time because less pack ups are required and less time is lost walking between each of the two schools.

With new buildings soon set to arrive we will begin to incorporate some of our Tech Arts programmes, starting with Sewing, onsite here at MCS and we will invest in the resources we need for this, such as sewing machines and related materials required. This term we are investing in a number of machines which we will build on over time. While these machines are essentially for Years 7—10 there may be times, such as when we do events like Wearable Arts, where Year 6 students may also have supervised access to them too.

Our first new building also includes a science lab which we will be setting up for use across the school levels.

### WE NEED A BIT OF HELP PLEASE

As part of our Permaculture programme this term we will be cooking some of the crops we have been growing with our students over two Wednesdays. For this we need some help please with the supply of electric frying pans. In total we need eight and would be grateful for any offers to help us by lending these to us for the **4th and 11th of June** please. We also need some old ice cream containers for storing the soup if people have some spares they do not need, and we would really like some adult help on both the 4th and 11th as we prepare food and cook please. Again, please let us know if you are able to assist us. We realise these two dates are still a number of weeks away but we are trying to be well organised—if you let us know you can help we will remind you closer to the date.



# IT'S TIME FOR OUR COMMUNITY OP SHOP WEEK

MONDAY 19TH MAY TO FRIDAY 23RD MAY, 9AM—3PM

ARAWA STREET, MATAMATA

- Can you help us run the shop with some of your time?
- Do you have anything you can donate to us to sell that you don't want anymore?
- Come and shop with us

*See you there!*

## News - Kawepūrongo

### NEW CARPET

Over the school holidays we were delighted to continue upgrades in the school with new carpet being put down throughout the Senior classroom block. This has really transformed the space and made it a very comfortable zone to be in. Some of our students observed that the new carpet is representative of all our house team colours too!



In the next school holidays we are looking forward to new carpet being installed in the administration block.

Our grateful thanks go to the PCE Board for their ongoing commitment to presenting the school well and having enjoyable spaces for all to work in.

### TOUGH GUY TOUGH GAL CHALLENGE

The annual Tough Guy, Tough Gal Challenge held at Matamata College is coming up this week on **Wednesday the 14th of May**. Entries are now closed for this.

Students competing in this great event will be walked from school. Whānau are very welcome to attend and we would appreciate the support of anyone willing to help us walk our students to and from the event please. Please see Sarah in the office or Mrs Bloomfield if you are able to help.

Here's a timetable of events:

- 8:55 Year 7/8 walking to the College
- 9:25 Briefing
- 9:30 Non-competitive Year 7/8 event—1 lap then return to school
- 9:55 Briefing
- 10:00 Competitive Year 7/8 event—2 laps then return to school
- 10:15 Year 4 - 6 walking to the College
- 10:55 Briefing
- 11:00 Year 4 - 6 event—1 lap then return to school



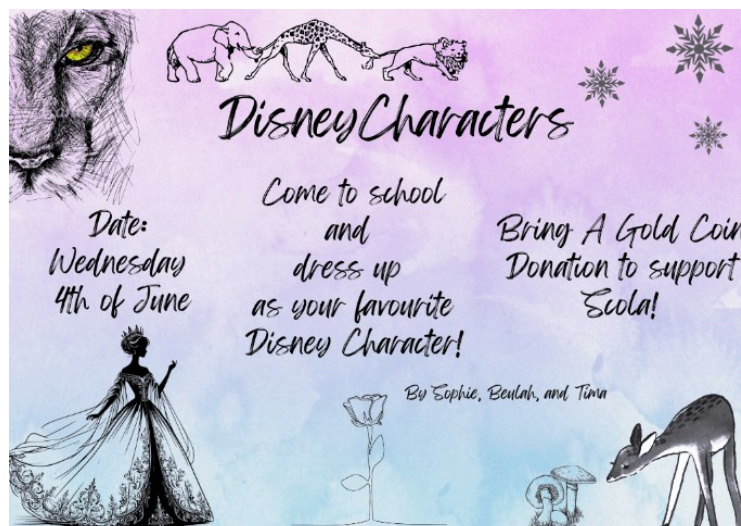
### SCOLA MUFTI DAY

Our Term 2 Scola mufti day is coming up on **Wednesday the 4th of June**.

Scola is our Ugandan World Vision sponsored child our students support as part of our commitment to both our service and compassion core values

To raise money to meet our sponsorship commitment to World Vision we run termly mufti days for our students to participate in. Our Senior student leadership team run these. This term the mufti day theme challenge is to dress up as a Disney character. It is not compulsory to be in theme, students can wear anything appropriate they choose to, the theme is just for fun for anyone who wants to be part of it.

To come in any mufti students need to contribute a gold coin donation please. We know a number of people have often contributed more and for this we thank you as this really helps us meet our commitments to World Vision.



### PARENT CONNECT GROUP

The Parent Connect Group is back for Term 2 and is set for after school on **Friday the 23rd of May** (next week).

All parents or family members are invited to stay after school, chat and have afternoon tea while your kids play on the playground. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents in the school so please feel encouraged to come and be a part of this.



### SPORTS HAVE STARTED

With Term 2 now firmly underway so are our sports. We have a large number of students playing both Netball and Hockey and our teams have made a great start to the season. Please remember that if your child has signed up this needs to be a commitment until the end of the season. Our teams depend on everyone. Give it heaps everyone!





## Even More News - Kawepūrongo

### WINTER UNIFORM

It is now time for everyone to be in winter uniform please. This simply means changing footwear from sandals to black shoes and adding in their school polar fleece.

Shoes should be black leather or leather look lace up shoes. We will also accept black leather slip on shoes and velcro shoes instead of lace ups for younger students. Shoes must not be sports or fashion shoes please.

Boys wear long navy socks with jade stripes which are available from the uniform room. Girls can wear either navy or black socks that are knee high or ankle length, or navy or black tights. For girls these are available from shops such as Postie +, The Warehouse and Farmers.

Please note track pants are not part of our school uniform. Our classrooms will be nice and warm through the winter though.

Uniform polar fleece tops are available from the school uniform shop and also help keep everyone warm.



### Dates for your Calendar

#### May

- 12th MCS Eclipse Netball Training
- 13th MCS Stars Netball Training
- 13th Hockey Training
- 13th Senior Netball Games
- 13th School Board Meeting
- 14th Tough Guy Tough Girl Matamata Challenge
- 14th Sports Academy
- 14th Primary Netball Training
- 15th Primary Netball Games
- 15th Hockey Year 5/6
- 16th School Choir Practise
- 16th Year 7/8 Hockey
- 17th Year 3 - 6 Hockey
- 19-23 Community Op Shop Week
- 19th Y7/8 Hockey Training
- 19th MCS Eclipse Netball Training
- 20th Friends and Founders Day
- 20th Pastor's Breakfast
- 20th Community Dinner and AGM
- 20th MCS Stars Netball Training
- 20th Hockey Training
- 20th Senior Netball Games
- 21st PTA Hockey Cup (Y5/6)
- 21st Lions Netball Cup (Y5/6)
- 21st Y7/8 Epro8 Semi Final
- 21st Sports Academy
- 21st Primary Netball Training
- 22nd Primary Netball Games
- 23rd Hockey Year 5/6



## 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

FONZ Youth Group

and

ROCK idZ

Parental supervision please if you have young children.

Some of our parents have got together and created a Parents Connect Group which meets twice per term in the school library or playground. This is an opportunity for parents to get together and enjoy a time of community together. The next get together is set for straight after school on Friday the 23rd of May. Come and enjoy afternoon tea, and chat and meet other parents and community members while the kids play. Pre-schoolers are very welcome.



The advertisement features the Subway logo at the top, followed by the text 'PLAYBOOK' in a red banner and 'THE SUBWAY SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMME' in a green banner. Below the banners is a photograph of a Subway sandwich, a water bottle, and a small container of dressing. At the bottom left is the Heart Foundation logo, and at the bottom right is a yellow circular logo that says 'FUELLED 4 LIFE'. The text 'Available Fridays' is written in red at the bottom right.



# 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 the School Board complaints procedures chart (available from school).

