

**Nga mihi o te tau Hou ki a koutou katoa**

Wishing you all a very happy New Year. Welcome to all students and parents and a special welcome to parents who have a child at Matamata College for the first time. I trust your association with this college will be a long and positive one.

**New Staff**

Welcome to the following new staff to Matamata College:

Ms Faye Mathews	Assistant Principal
Ms Jayne Adams	HOD English
Mr Narendra Naidu	Mathematics
Mr Jay Mackenzie	Mathematics
Mr Michael Hills	PE & Science
Miss Anita Ward	Science & Biology
Miss Estelle Claassen	Accounting & Business Studies
Ms Toni Twiss	Staff ICT trainer



**Student leaders 2009**

<b>Head Boy</b>	Travis Scott
<b>Head Girl</b>	Chloe Autridge
<b>Deputy Head Boy</b>	Jake Smith
<b>Deputy Head Girl</b>	Erin Hawe
<b>Te Wairere Leaders</b>	Tita Wetere
	Petalla Kapua
<b>Te Wairere Deputies</b>	Gary Wharawhara
	Tatai Clarke
<b>Student BOT rep</b>	Courtney Tiddy

House	Leaders	Deputies
<b>Tui</b>	Tara Phillips Andrew Wright	Danielle Merry James Jobe
<b>Huia</b>	Emma Wylie Jackson Greenwell	Kirstie Autridge Kieran McPherson
<b>Kiwi</b>	Daniel van Heuven Isabelle Atherton	Jordan Hicks Krishelle Vincent
<b>Weka</b>	Kurt Gaskell Sarah Baker	Hayley Clarke Beau Wills

**School Deans**

Level Deans are teachers who have pastoral care responsibilities for students at a particular level. They are often a good first point of contact for parents who may have concerns about a student's work, behaviour, subjects etc.

<b>Year 9</b>	Mrs Williams and Ms Mathews
<b>Year 10</b>	Mr Kent and Mrs Davidson
<b>Year 11</b>	Miss Olsthoorn and Mr Garrud
<b>Year 12</b>	Ms Liddle
<b>Year 13</b>	Mr Kilham

**International Students** Mrs McGonagle

Because all Deans also teach, it is necessary to make an appointment if parents wish to see one of the them. You can do this through the main office (07 881 9018)

Two other teachers with specific pastoral care responsibilities are **Mr Murray**, the Careers' Advisor and **Mrs Kelleher**, the Counsellor. Both of these teachers can also be contacted through the school office.

**Ms Kym Bolton-Hampton** is the administrator for our GATEWAY programme and **Mr Stewart Best** is the school Social Worker and coordinator of the Youth Apprenticeship Scheme (YAS)

**Uniform Code:**

We have an expectation that all students will be in complete and correct school uniform as prescribed in the school prospectus. For years 9—12 sandals are sandals (**not jandals**) worn with the strap up and shoes are black or brown, (not white sports shoes) . Other uniform points to note:

- \* The only jewellery permitted is a watch
- \* No visible body piercing except in ears where one stud in each ear is permitted
- \* Boys must be clean shaven
- \* No extreme hair style is allowed  
Make-up must be discreet

We like to keep the uniform regulations simple and reasonable. Students should remember that the uniform is a work uniform—like they wear at McDonalds, Countdown, The Warehouse etc. etc.—and they can keep their flash clothes for weekends and school mufti days and socials.


**Caps**—during Term 1, caps may be worn outside the classroom at interval and lunchtime only. Beanies are not permitted at all.

**Year 13 Uniform**— Year 13 students are permitted to wear jewellery and have some discretion with their shoes. **BUT** jandals are not permitted at all.



**Matamata Mitre 10 –  
Matamata College Sports' Club Fun Run  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of March.**

*RD1 Matamata - 5km Walk  
Metso Minerals - 5km Run  
Harcourts Kevin Deane Real Estate Ltd - 10km Walk  
Magill Earl and Co - 10km Run*



The annual Sports' Club Fun Run will be held on Sunday 15 March. This is their major fundraiser which goes a long way to supporting all sport in the school . **Matamata Mitre 10** is the major sponsor of the Fun Run and there are several events that students, parents and supporters can get involved in.

A number of winter sports' teams will be incorporating this event into their pre-season training and it would be great to see as many College students and parents involved in the day. It will provide a good check on fitness ahead of the winter season. There are a number of spot prizes up for grabs and the last two events have been very enjoyable occasions indeed. This is a fun and practical way you and your family can support the college, so get your whanau together and join in the fun!

Entry forms can also be printed off the Matamata College website. If there are parents who can help as volunteers to act as marshalls or help at drink stations, please contact our Sports' Coordinator, Donna Gaskell at 07 881 9018 ext 229

Students will earn House Points by entering in this event.

**Swimming Sports**

Friday 13th Feb. 9.00am start. All parents welcome. Students are encouraged to wear house colour mufti for this day. (Black is **not** a house colour!)





## 2008 NCEA results

	Matamata College—decile 6 co-ed	Cf. decile 6 co-ed schools NZ	Cf. All schools in NZ
<b>Level 1</b>	64.7%	65.3%	62.5%
<b>Level 2</b>	84.4%	65.1%	65.5%
<b>Level 3</b>	66%	50.2%	53.2%
<b>Literacy L1</b>	84.7%	80.1%	77.3%
<b>Numeracy L1</b>	79.5%	87.7%	84.9%
<b>UE (L3)</b>	61%	45.1%	49.6%
<b>L1 Merit</b>	15.3%	15.0%	17.3%
<b>L1 Ex</b>	6.3%	2.7%	4.6%
<b>L2 Merit</b>	10.2%	9.7%	12.3%
<b>L2 Ex</b>	1.2%	1.9%	3.1%
<b>L3 Merit</b>	13.0%	8.4%	11.0%
<b>L3 Ex</b>	3.0%	2.0%	2.6%

### Students who gained NCEA Certificates endorsed with Excellence

#### Level 1

Hannah Woods	Elisabeth Brown
Katherine Bird	Harriette Tanner
Fiona Panther	Sophie Frew
Lance Knyvett	Alice Clothier
Thomas Kittow	Monique Alexander
Kylie Gillingham	Brittany Park

#### Level 2

Travis Scott	Emma Wylie
Ben Hollier	

#### Level 3

Dannielle Tappin	Naomi Pettigrew
Sarah Parry	

### HPV Vaccinations

The Ministry of Health has made available to all girls aged between 12 and 18, the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination. The aim is to protect young women from the most common causes of cervical cancer.

While the programme is a Ministry of Health initiative, the Waikato District Health Board is working in partnership with schools to deliver the vaccinations.

All girls in the school will attend an information assembly in the hall on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February during Period 4. This information sharing will be run by Pam Neilson, the public health nurse. At the conclusion of the assembly information pamphlets and consent forms will be issued for the girls to take home.

The vaccination date has been set for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at school. Contact Assistant Principal, Ms Mathews, for more information.

### CARS - travelling in cars to school

- All students driving a car to school must register their car on the college's transport authority form available from the student reception.
- All M.O.T. road rules must be obeyed including provisions relating to drivers with restricted licences.
- No other student is permitted to travel in the car unless the school has written permission from both sets of parents/guardians (i.e. the driver and passenger's parents)
- Cars are to be parked in the student car park or along Firth Street. **NO** parking in Mill Crescent.
- Only** Year 13 students may use their car during the school day.
- For all other students normal pass rules apply.
- Failure to follow these guidelines may result in the privilege of bringing a car to school cancelled.



Mr Munro - Deputy Principal

### Cell Phone Policy

Students are not permitted to use cell phones while at school. Cell phones should remain in bags and be switched off. Students who use them during school time run the risk of having them confiscated.



Confiscated cell phones can be collected *by parents only* on Fridays between 3.15 and 4pm from the school office. **NB. The school accepts no responsibility for lost cell-phones.**

### PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS

<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Tuesday 17th Feb</b>
<b>Year 13</b>	<b>Tuesday 24th Feb</b>
<b>Year 11 (NCEA Level 1)</b>	<b>Tuesday 3 March</b>

#### All meetings at 7.30pm

The purpose of these evenings is to inform parents and caregivers about the qualification structures at that level and to allow us to explain our expectations for students. I urge all parents to attend the appropriate meeting to start the important school/home liaison for 2009. Year 9 parents will have the opportunity to meet the Year 9 group teachers.

### Calendar of up-coming events

Fri 13 Feb	School Swimming Sports
Mon 16 Feb	Maori parents' meeting 6pm
Tues 17 Feb	Year 9 Parents' night 7.30pm
Wed 18 Feb	PTA meeting 7.30pm
Fri 20 Feb	T.V. Swimming champs
Tues 24 Feb	Year 13 Parents' night 7.30pm
Thurs 26 Feb	Group and ID photos
Tues 3 March	Year 11 NCEA parents' night
Wed 4 March	Athletic Prelims
Fri 6 March	Athletic Sports
Thur 12 March	TV Athletics
Sun 15 March	Sports' Club Fun Run
	Touch Regionals
	Waikato/BOP Athletics
Sat 21 March	Waikato Swimming
Wed 25 March	Interim reports posted
Fri 27 March	Parents' night for interim reports
Wed 1 April	



## Attendance and School Links

### Attendance and School-links

There is a clear link between regular attendance at school and achievement. We need students at school unless they are very ill and in 2009 we are again concentrating on improving our attendance rate. To do this we need every parent's support and we will work hard to improve our systems here at school that track and follow up all non attendance.

Enclosed with this newsletter is an information sheet about **School-links**. This is an internet based software package which allows the school to communicate quickly and efficiently with parents who have signed up for the programme.

We use School-links to send texts and emails to parents of students who are absent from school without explanation. This could be a whole day absence or a period absence.

We also use school links to send the college newsletter home electronically and we hope to use it more this year to allow us to communicate quickly with college sports' teams and other groups (e.g. to notify students of a cancelled practice etc.) **School-links** can also be used by parents to efficiently and easily send an absence note to the college.

I would like to have every parent sign up for school-links so that we can improve the communication pathways between school and home.

Please take the time to register with school-links now. Once you get onto the school-links website, choose the "Register" box, type in Matamata and choose Matamata College and then enter the registration code (matamata-parent). The rest is easy and by registering you will be helping your child succeed and also helping us communicate better with you.

## Parent Teacher Association News

The PTA is a parent organisation which aims to give parents the opportunity to keep informed on school matters and also arranges meetings with special topics and guest speakers.

The PTA meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month in the staffroom at 7.30pm and it is a good way for parents to be involved in the school in a safe, non-conscription basis! The PTA usually organises one fundraiser a year but raising money is not the main kaupapa of the group. It is to meet as parents and staff and discuss issues affecting teenagers, education and Matamata College.

The first meeting for 2009 will be held on

**Wednesday 18th** at 7.30pm in the staffroom.

Come along and hear about the exciting things happening at the college in 2009.

### Some recent student successes

- **Kelsie Wills (Year 12)** —won the NZ under 17 Beach Volleyball title over the holidays with her partner from Tauranga Girls' College.
- **Erin Hawe (Year 13)** has been selected in the NZ Junior Women's Golf Team to play against Australia in Canberra later this month.
- **Lilly Matthews (Year 11)** - has been selected for the Waikato Under 17 Squash team to travel to Australia to compete in the Australian Junior Squash series.
- **Carolyn Davidson and Kelsie Wills (Year 12)** —runners-up in NZ Sec Schools' Beach Volleyball champs.



## Doctor's Clinic at Matamata College

Over the last few years the need for a regular Doctor's clinic located at the College has become a priority given the changing health needs of today's students. Doctors at the Matamata Medical Centre realise that students are not always comfortable attending the local medical centre and often need to see a Doctor without having to make an appointment.



A doctor's clinic will operate at Matamata College in Term One. This is a joint venture between the College and the MMC Doctors and will be free of charge to the students. However students attending for regular medical conditions may still be referred to the Medical Centre.

The clinic will be held on Thursdays from 1.00pm to 2.00pm and the GP will be Dr Fiona Campbell. Dr Campbell is from the UK and has been working in Matamata for the last six months. The liaison person at the College will be Miss Sue Miles who will be able to answer any enquiries regarding this clinic.

## Free Health Clinic

In partnership with the Waikato DHB the school is able to offer a free public nurse health clinic to all students.

**When** Monday lunchtimes 1—2pm (or outside these hours by appointment)

**Where** Student reception area

**What** Any health issue

- General health checks
- Skin disorders
- Vision and hearing
- Sexuality/ sexual health
- Mental health
- Nutrition/ weight/ diet
- Smoking/ alcohol/ drugs

**Who** Miriam Barnett—Public Health Nurse

**Cost** No cost

## Reading / Literacy

Reading is the single most important skill a student needs to be a successful learner at school.

Like all skills, reading must be practised regularly if one is to retain and improve one's reading ability.

All students should practise reading every night—at least 10—15 minutes a night over and above other home study they do.

It does not really matter what a student reads—as long as they are reading and not just flicking through magazines etc.

Parents have a big role to play in modelling reading and also encouraging students to read regularly.

How about switching off the TV for half an hour a night and the whole family sitting down to read?

Students never never never have no homework to do. They always have reading to practise.



## Te Rangimarie Committee

### Nga mihi nui kia kotou katoa

A warm welcome to all students and parents. All parents/caregivers of students learning Te Reo and parents of Maori students are encouraged to attend a hui on Monday 16 February at 6pm in the Wharenui classroom

Your support at this meeting will encourage and enhance your student's achievement in school. Naaku noa.

Whaea Marcella Manihera-Rolls

G. C. Rowsell

Principal