

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.

Student Leaders 2012

Head Boy	Ciaran O'Malley
Head Girl	Riannan Bardoul
Deputy Head Boy	Hayden Waugh
Deputy Head Girl	Julie-Ana Tarrant

House Leaders

Tui	George Trower	Sarah Harrison
Huia	Oscar Bennett	Margarita Dashevskaya
Kiwi	Cameron Ring	Chelsea Blackstock
Weka	Teina Walters	Melissa Manton

Student BOT Rep	Maria Visser
Sport Captains	Aana Rogers Jamie Heta

The Te Wairere Student Council leaders will be appointed shortly.

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.

Year 9	Mrs Williams	(ext 253)
	Ms Mathews	(ext 257)
Year 10	Mr Hills	(ext 250)
	Miss Clutterbuck	(ext 250)
Year 11	Mr Fenneman	(ext 254)
	Mrs Wright	(ext 261)
Year 12	Ms Liddle	(ext 233)
Year 13	Mr Kilham	(ext 234)
International Students	Mrs Moreton	(ext 248)

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

Two other teachers with specific pastoral care responsibilities are **Mr Murray**, the Careers' Advisor (ext 223) and **Mrs Kelleher**, the Counsellor (ext 225).

Both of these teachers can also be contacted through the school office.

Mrs Kym Bolton-Hampton (ext 256) is in charge of our GATEWAY programme and **Mrs Mereana Paul** is our Attendance Officer (ext 239. DDI 881 9033).

New Staff

I am pleased to welcome the following new staff to Matamata College and trust that their time with us will be stimulating and rewarding:

Ms Annmarie Lawler	Drama and English
Mr Alex Ball	PE and Health
Mr Navin Deo	Mathematics
Mr Ravnesh Chand	Horticulture/Agriculture
Mrs Raylene Read	Learning Assistant

Congratulations too to Miss Gwynne (Mrs McMillan) and Mr Suter who were married over the holidays. (But not to each other!)

**Top Year 9 & 10 RAMPS Students 2011****Year 9 Top of Class**

91	Serena Higginson
92	Madison Russell
93	Kaitlin Carter
94	Renee Walker
95	Lindsey Osborne
96	Ashleigh Leuthard
97	Joshua Goodwin
98	Shyanne Prier

Excellence Awards

Alice Bird
Christy Webb
Shona Veltman
Celine Russenberger
Renee Walker
Ashleigh Leuthard

Year 10 Top of Class

101	Craig Dobbe
102	Kelly Petersen
103	Morgana Hare
104	Stephanie Nelis
105	Emma Barnett
106	Tara Orr
107	Seamus Bardoul
108	Jennifer Freeman

Excellence Awards;

Anna Watkins
Philip ten Houde de Lange
Jacob Teers
Stephen Drysdale
Michelle Palmer
Renae White

**Dux of Year 9
Madison Russell****Dux of Year 10
Kelly Petersen****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.





2011 NCEA results

	Matamata College—decile 6 co-ed	Cf. decile 6 co-ed schools NZ
Level 1	75.1%	72.4%
Level 2	91.3%	80.4%
Level 3	68.3%	72.1%
Literacy L1	90.2%	82.6%
Numeracy L1	86.3%	83.2%
UE (L3)	52.4%	61.4%

Students who gained NCEA Certificates Endorsed with Excellence

Level 1

Timothy Gray	Beth Hampton
Timothy Hampton	Emily Lawrence
Liam Nelson	Ellen Osborne
Alicia Stewart	Jessica Schweizer
Lydia Veltman	Stephanie Williams

Level 2

Bethany O'Reilly	Jessica Watkinson
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Level 3

Jacqueline Louw

Comment

I am pleased with the improvement in the overall Level One results and although the introduction of the new standards at Level One in 2011 make comparisons difficult, it is good to see our overall Level One result back to above the national average for schools similar to Matamata College. I still remain convinced that we can get the figure to 80% for Level One and we will continue to strive for that. It was pleasing too to see an improvement in the Literacy and Numeracy results for last year.

There is a very high correlation between the students who consistently put the effort in and those who gain Level One. There is also a strong correlation between attendance and achievement. As a school we will be trying some different strategies and initiatives to see if we can't get at least 80% of our Year 11 students through Level One this year.

Level Two results remain strong but we were a little disappointed with the drop in Level Three results.

The other thing that students need to be mindful of is that it is a very competitive market out there and tertiary institutes and employers are now often demanding more than just an Achieved pass. Students should aim for the best pass possible rather than settle for mediocrity with an Achieved pass. A pass with Merit or Excellence gives the student a significant point of difference when it comes to applying for courses and jobs.

I was pleased with the increase in Excellence and Merit grades at Level One and we have set ourselves a target of increasing the number of Excellence and Merit grades at Level Two this year to continue this trend.

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 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 and Music Player 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 3.30 and 4pm from the school office.

Personal music players can be used at interval and lunchtime but should not be used in class. **NB. The school accepts no responsibility for lost cell-phones or personal music players brought to school.**

Year 13 Parents' Information Evening

Tuesday 21 February

7.30pm

Mr Kilham would like to meet with Year 13 parents to explain our expectations for the year and also explain qualifications at Level Three and applications for Universities and Polytechs and Halls of Residence etc.

Parents/caregivers are encouraged to bring their Year 13 son/daughter with them so everyone is hearing the same message.

YEAR 11 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

(NCEA Level One) Wednesday 29 Feb

7.30pm

The purpose of this evening is to inform parents and caregivers about the NCEA system and to give parents some tips about how they may help students succeed at Level One. Parents are encouraged to bring their student with them so that everyone hears the same story and we can work together to help every student succeed.



Year 9 Parents' Meeting

Tuesday 14 February 7.30pm.



The purpose of this meeting is to inform parents of what is happening with Year 9 students and to answer any questions. Year 9 Group teachers will also be there to meet the parents/caregivers of students in their Group class.

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 **Tuesday 14th February at 6pm** in the Whareniui classroom.

Te Rangimarie is a parent support group whose aim is to support and encourage Maori students to engage and achieve at Matamata College. The group will meet bi-monthly on the second Tuesday of the month.

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

How do I report my child's absence from school?

All student absences from school must be covered by parents/caregivers informing the school. This can be done in several ways:



- Parents can **phone** the attendance officer, **Mrs Paul** on 881 9033 (or 881 9018 ext 239) after 8.30am.
- **Email** Mrs Paul at mereana@matamatacollege.school.nz (put the student's name in the subject line).
- **Email** the office at office@matamatacollege.school.nz (put the student's name in the subject line).
- **Phone** the main office from 7am onwards (07 881 9018)

We intend sending out email and txt alerts to parents/caregivers of students whose absence is unaccounted for at about 9.30am each day. Early notification from home of a student's absence for the day really helps us target the unexplained absences more effectively.

Bus Issues

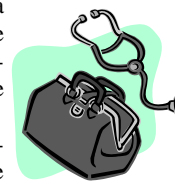
Mr Kent (ext 243) is the teacher responsible for the buses. He should be contacted for any enquiries regarding buses.

Uniform Issues

- Congratulations to the Year 9 and Year 12 students who look splendid in their new uniform and have been wearing it with pride.
- **CAPS**—students are encouraged to be sun smart and use sunscreen and seek shelter in the heat of the day. As part of this they are allowed to wear caps or hats at intervals and lunchtimes if they are in the sun. Caps must be discreet in design and colour and should not be worn in class, before school or between classes. I am reliably informed that students will not get sunburnt before 10 o'clock in the morning so they do not need to wear them to school.
- **FOOTWEAR**—in summer students have a choice of a black or brown sandal worn with the strap up, or black shoes. Shoes must be completely black with no colour or logos or designs on them and we recommend strongly that students wear sturdy black leather shoes as they are more durable and weather-proof. For safety reasons, students in workshops must wear shoes. **White or coloured sport shoes** are not school uniform and should not be worn as part of our uniform. **Jandals** are not part of our uniform.
- **SOCKS**—boys have the regulation grey school socks. Girls may wear white short socks. **Black socks are not part of our uniform.**

Doctor's/Nurse's Clinic at Matamata College

I am pleased that the Matamata Medical Centre has agreed to continue their support of the college through running the Doctor's /Nurse's clinic at the College.



The clinic will be run on Thursdays from 1.10—2pm. This clinic will be free of charge to the students. However, students attending for regular medical conditions may still be referred to the Medical Centre. The liaison person at the College is Miss Sue Miles at Student Reception 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 Health clinic to all students.

When Monday lunchtimes 1.10—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

Parent Teacher Association (Friends of the School)

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 first meeting for 2012 will be held on **Wednesday 22 Feb.** at **7.30pm** in the staffroom.

At this meeting some of the new teachers will talk about their interesting teaching experiences before coming to Matamata College and the Principal will talk about the school's 2011 NCEA results and also talk about the strategic goals for the school this year.

Come along and be an important part of the school's support network for 2012.

Matamata College NCEA Rules

I have included on the back page a copy of the rules and policies surrounding NCEA internal assessments at Matamata College. I urge all parents/caregivers and senior students to read these carefully.

Swimming Sports

The Swimming Finals will be held on **Friday 10th Feb. 9.00am start.** All parents/caregivers welcome. Students are encouraged to wear house colour mufti for this day.



Athletic Finals

The Athletic Finals' day is **Friday 17th February** beginning at 9.00am. Students are encouraged to wear House coloured mufti on this day for competing in the events.



Matamata College Student NCEA Rules for Internal Assessment 2012

Assessments

- Assessments will be carried out within class time whenever possible.
- Adequate notice of assessments will be given (a minimum of two weeks).

Authenticity

- All assessment work must be the student's own work.
- Where evidence indicates that work submitted is not a student's own work a "Not Achieved" (NA) grade will be awarded.
- Allowing other students to have access to your work may result in a "Not Achieved" grade being awarded.

Late Work

- All assessments must be handed in on the due time and date.
- Any late work submitted without prior consultation will receive a "Not Achieved" grade.

Missed Assessment

- In the case of an illness or accident a student will be required to provide a note or a medical certificate.
- When a student is absent for a genuine reason on the day of an assessment they will be given the opportunity to carry out the assessment task on their return to school.
- If a student is involved in a school activity an EOTC slip must be signed by the teacher in charge of the activity. The student must bring this slip to class on their return.
- If a student is absent for an invalid or unexplained reason they will receive a "Not Achieved" grade. No further assessment opportunities will be offered to them.

Further Assessment Opportunities

One further assessment opportunity may be offered in some standards.

Recording of Results

- All marked assessment tasks will be returned to students so that the marking may be checked. The teacher will then retain these tasks.
- Students will receive a copy of their results that they will check, verify, sign and return to the teacher.
- Students will be encouraged to regularly check their results and standard entries on the NZQA web site to ensure that they are correct.

Appeals

- Students should discuss with their teacher any genuine concerns they have with the conditions or marking of an assessment task.
- If the situation is not resolved the student may make a written appeal to the HOD within three days of the student receiving their marked assessment task.
- If the student is dissatisfied with the outcome then they may make an appeal to the Principal's Nominee (Dr Parish) within seven days of the student receiving the marked assignment.
- If necessary the student may make an appeal to the Principal.

Derived Grades

- Students who are prevented from sitting NCEA external examinations may apply for a derived grade.
- Tests and examinations during the year will be used to generate the derived grades.
- A derived grade cannot be awarded if a student has not completed tests and school examinations.

Disruptive Behaviour

- Disruptive behaviour which impacts on other students' ability to complete assessment tasks may result in a "Not Achieved" grade being awarded.