



"Maa mahi, ka ora"



Matamata College

CONTACT NEWSLETTER

9 August 2022



Principal's Message

Teena koutou katoa.

Well, it has certainly been a busy start to the term!

It is hard to imagine any school having to face a genuine bomb scare, let alone having numerous schools up and down the country being impacted by them! However, I am so proud of the way in which our students conducted themselves, and of the staff who followed our safety processes so well. I appreciate that this was a very scary experience for everyone involved, and I am so grateful for the quick response of the police and of their support in ensuring everyone's safety.

Then we had our 'new look' Learning Conferences at the Memorial Centre. The feedback received from the community was overwhelmingly positive, and we have taken on the suggestions for how we can improve the experience for next year's learning conversations, in the same venue.

I had the pleasure, over the weekend, of watching some Saturday sports on our beautiful fields. It was an absolute joy seeing the grounds covered with teams playing and spectators enjoying the sunshine and buzz of activity. I would like to acknowledge the hard work that our students, who play sports, put into their trainings so that they can perform at their best. I would also like to thank the staff, managers, coaches, and other volunteers, who donate so much of their time to supporting our school sports programme because they understand the important part that it plays in the health and wellbeing of our aakonga.

We also have several activities to look forward to in the upcoming weeks, including the school ball on Saturday night, and the Te Wairere cultural exchange with Morrinsville College, on Tuesday 23 August.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our very hard-working PTA, who do so much to support the school! The new shade additions to the property, with seating available underneath, have already proven very popular with the students, and this would not have happened without the fundraising efforts and the physical working bees that the PTA organised to bring the project to fruition. Their support at other events is also very much appreciated.

To finish, the Ministry of Education has suggested that principals share the following key information with their communities:

Winter wellness guide for tamariki

With a rise in COVID-19, seasonal colds, flu and other respiratory infections in our communities, this guidance is to help you manage your child's illness.

KEY WELLNESS INDICATORS

- Healthy young children can have up to 8 to 12 colds or upper respiratory tract infections each year. These are a normal part of childhood.

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TERM DATES

Teacher Only Day
Monday 29 August
Term 3 Ends
 Fri 30 September
Term 4 Begins
 Mon 17 October
Term 4 Ends
 Tue 13 December

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open by appointment only. For any uniform enquiries please contact Angela in Student Reception (extension 232 or uniforms@matcol.nz). Uniform orders, payments and collection can be made through Student Reception. Payments can also be made via online banking to the school account. Please use your child's student ID number as a reference. Uniform order forms and price lists are available on the school website.



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- A child should stay at home if they appear unwell or if they develop any of these symptoms: new runny nose, sore throat, cough, fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, rash, they are off their food and drink or show signs of feeling miserable.
- If a child becomes increasingly unwell and/or you are concerned about them, call your GP or Healthline on 0800 611 116. A child who is refusing to drink anything is likely to be very unwell.
- If an in-person appointment is required, follow your GP's processes, which will include everyone wearing a mask if they can safely and practically do so.
- If you, or a child you are caring for, develops difficulty breathing, severe chest pain, fainting or becomes unconscious, call 111 immediately.

Find reliable information on how to manage colds and flus on KidsHealth and Health Navigator.

[Information about health and wellbeing of tamariki and rangatahi – KidsHealth](#)
[Health information for New Zealanders – Health Navigator](#)

COVID-19 GUIDANCE

- If your child has COVID-19 symptoms, the child and anyone in their household with similar symptoms should be tested for COVID-19.
- If any household members are COVID-19 positive, other household members are at high risk of becoming infected. Everyone should isolate for at least seven days from the day that the first person receives their positive test result or becomes symptomatic (whichever is earliest).
- All household contacts, including children, should take a rapid antigen test (RAT) on day three and day seven, or sooner if they develop symptoms. A person who has had COVID-19 in the past 90 days, does not need to isolate again as a household contact.
- Anyone who experiences symptoms 29 days or longer after previous COVID-19 infection should test and will need to isolate if they test positive.

If your child:

- has been isolating with COVID 19 and is feeling well after seven days, they can return to school
- continues to be unwell and/or has symptoms after their seven-day isolation period has ended, they should remain at home to recover until 24 hours after their symptoms end
- still feels unwell or their symptoms are worsening after ten days, they should not return to school. Call your GP or Healthline on 0800 611 116 for medical advice.

Find detailed information about COVID-19 symptoms on the Ministry of Health and Unite Against COVID-19 websites.

[About COVID-19 – Ministry of Health](#)
[Information about COVID-19 – Unite Against COVID-19](#)

HOW TO KNOW IF YOUR CHILD SHOULD STAY AT HOME

- If a child has been unwell with an illness other than COVID-19, they can return to their school 24 hours after they have significantly improved and are behaving/eating normally.
- If a child still has a runny nose or dry cough without any other symptoms such as a fever, vomiting or diarrhoea, they are unlikely to be infectious and could be considered well enough to attend school. They should not be required to provide a doctor's certificate or clearance to return.
- Any child who has a runny nose after a change in temperature – for example, moving from outdoors to indoors – or sneezes due to obvious stimuli (such as the sun or dust) does not need to be sent home.
- Hay fever and other allergies can show similar symptoms to the common cold such as sneezing, a runny or stuffy nose and coughing. If a child has a history of allergic symptoms and shows one or more of these symptoms, or an itchy face (especially around the eyes or throat), consider if hay fever or an allergy could be the cause.



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IDEAS FOR KEEPING CHILDREN HEALTHY THIS WINTER

Follow this guidance to help keep children and whānau stay healthy during the winter months.

Provide children with healthy and nutritious food to eat. Healthy eating supports immunity and helps our bodies to work well and feel good.

[Food, activity and sleep – Ministry of Health](#)

Support children to get enough sleep. Sleep is important for restoring energy, maintaining mental and physical wellbeing, learning, and aiding healthy growth and development.

[Helping young children sleep better – Ministry of Health](#)

Encourage and create opportunities for children to be active. Being active at home, at school, at play during the weekends and in the community helps children maintain good health and wellbeing.

[Activities for children and young people – Ministry of Health](#)

It is a good idea to encourage children to play outdoors – they just need to be dressed warmly during the winter months!

Being outdoors helps to boost children’s immune systems through exposure to fresh air and enables them to make vitamin D from exposure to the sun.

ACCESS TO FREE FACE MASKS

More masks are being provided in the community to help stop the spread of COVID-19. You do not need to have COVID-19 or have COVID-19 symptoms to get free masks.

Both medical masks and P2/N95 particulate respirator masks are available (with people at higher risk of severe illness being prioritised for P2/N95 masks).

Find out about higher risk people:

[Higher risk people – Ministry of Health](#)

You can get free face masks by:

- picking them up from testing centres and collection points alongside your free rapid antigen tests (RATs)
- visiting a participating pharmacy
- talking to a participating GP or alternative community healthcare provider.

To order RATs online visit the Ministry of Health website.

[Rapid antigen testing \(RAT\) – Ministry of Health](#)

Alternatively, if you’re unable to order RATs online or visit a participating healthcare provider in person, call 0800 222 478 and select option 3.

For a list of testing locations with free face masks visit the Health Point website.

[COVID-19 testing – Health Point](#)



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Unistart Papers

Celebrating success! Every year, the University of Waikato combines with Waikato's secondary schools, offering an opportunity for students to begin their tertiary studies early with a "Unistart Paper". There is a selection of 50 papers to choose from. Topics range from Law to Philosophy, Computer Science to Creative Writing. Classes and tutorials are online and papers are broken down into various assignments and assessments, all covered in the first semester. The workload is around 8-10 hours per week. To qualify, secondary students are required to have achieved NCEA Level 2 with an Excellence or Merit endorsement. This year, Corey Hines (who achieved NCEA Level 2 Excellence) happily took up this offer and completed COMPX101 - Introduction to Programming. His score was 100% (Grade A+). This will be credited to his degree at the University of Canterbury as he embarks on a Bachelor of Software Engineering. Congratulations Corey! This is an impressive effort. For those who are interested next year, see Matamata College's Unistart Co-ordinator, Miss Liddle, in the Careers Department.



2022 Global Child Prodigy Awards

Jazz Vidamo will be attending the 2022 Global Child Prodigy Awards which will be in Dubai on the 20th of August.

The Global Child Prodigy Awards recognises child prodigies from all around the world in different fields such as Music, Arts, Science, Mathematics, Sports, Languages etc. Among thousands of applications from 68 countries, Jazz was selected as one of the TOP 100 child prodigies in the world for her achievements in her singing. She is the only one from New Zealand!

Getting to know Jazz:

Jazz is a 13-year-old student from Matamata College. She had the privilege of winning the 2021 Arts and Culture Award from GirlBoss New Zealand as well as the Artist of the Year for the Filipino- Kiwi Hero awards on the same year.

Recently, she became a semi-finalist on 60 SECONDS, which aired

from March-May on TVNZ 2 produced by Warner Bros NZ.

Last year, she sang with NZ's top operatic trio SOL3 MIO in their Spark Arena Concert in Auckland and received a standing ovation. (click on link below to view a video of Jazz being interviewed by Hilary Barry and singing with Sol3 Mio at Spark Arena.)

<https://fb.watch/exUH8ghZ3X/>

A few years ago, she represented New Zealand twice in the World Championships of Performing Arts in Hollywood and won the 2019 Champion of the World Division and 2 gold and 4 silver medals.

She has also won the Title of Little Singer with New Zealand Opera and Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra where she was a featured soloist in their APO concert in Auckland Town Hall.

Locally, Jazz uses her talent to support charities and foundations such as Starship Hospital, Tongan Relief Fund, Shine Foundation, Australian bushfires, GROW NZ (mental health awareness) and the Special Children Christmas Parties for children who are disadvantaged and have special needs.

About the event:

Jazz's family organised a fundraising concert on the 6th of August 6PM at the Matamata Bible church.

Local schools and youth performers were mainly involved as some of our special guests. The Mayor of Rotorua also attended and our local councillor. There were approximately 200 people attending the event and Subway provided the catering for the event. Click on the event link below.

<https://facebook.com/events/s/voyage-to-dubai-fundraising-co/3057731194537256/>





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YEAR 10 WOOD TECHNOLOGY

Year 10 Wood Technology students have been working on mini-catapults for the Catapult Championship being held this week.

Students will be competing in the following categories:

- Best Quality Build
- Longest Throw
- Most Beautiful
- Students' Choice Award

Results will be posted in the next Contact Newsletter.

Pictured testing their catapults are:

Jai Ogle, Jayden Mclean and Jack Scelly



DECK BUILDING IN ACTION

The Year 13 Trades students were tasked with the design and build of a deck for the students of Te Poi school.

Dylan Storey and Caleb Lawrence initially met with Principal Linda Larsen to discuss the brief and location.

Students then spent some time researching deck construction, designing options and working on a Site Safety Plan.

The class finally got to break ground on Friday with the help of Caleb's dad, marking out and placing footings for the deck. Students will soon return to continue with their work to create another great play space for the students of Te Poi school.

As you can see from the photos, the students did an incredible job. We look forward to seeing the end results!





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A Community in Action

Every morning before teachers arrive, a dedicated group of Year 13 students have been diligently arriving at school in the cold weather to ensure students have access to a healthy breakfast. This has proven to give our students a positive start to the day. It is a well-documented fact that students who eat breakfast are able to work faster and perform better in school. Breakfast improves concentration, alertness, comprehension, memory and learning. To ensure our rangatahi can continue to focus on learning, the rostered Year 13 students also arrive every morning tea and lunch to offer kai to anyone who needs it. We are incredibly grateful to the Baptist Church for making the rolls and delicious baking for the students. On extra cold days, students like to warm the rolls up in the microwave. Kym Bolton-Hampton runs 'Gateway for Good'. They do their bit by community fundraising through their Koha Kafe. Soul Church provide Up and Go's each month which students enjoy. Teachers also pitch in by supervising to ensure a smooth process for this popular and valuable initiative. It really is a community effort and a big thanks goes out to all involved.



Science Roadshow

The Science Roadshow came to Matamata College on 4 August. We ended up having more than 70 students attend, which was a great turnout! There were over 60 exhibits, including a hovercraft, demonstration of the tides, and levers and pulleys. They presented two shows as well, including demonstrating the water cycle and dropping Mr. Tomlin in the Electric Chair of Doom!





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New Zealand Rep

I can very excitedly say that I have been selected for another NZ rep position in Showjumping. This time in Noumea, New Caledonia at the Pacific Horse Challenge. I will get one trial ride on a drawn horse before competing for two days as an individual. I will then draw a new horse and compete for the New Zealand team in the teams challenge without a trial ride on the horse. Out of over 50 applicants, only four were selected. This will take place near the end of October.

By Olivia Prendergast (photo courtesy of Cheleken Photography)



Piper Skinner at Nationals

Congratulations to Piper Skinner, who came 7th for Step 6 Overs for All-Around finals when competing at the 2022 New Zealand Gymnastics Championships recently.

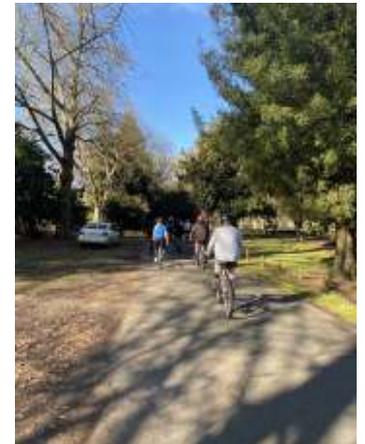
Piper also won herself a bronze medal for Beam.

Congratulations to Piper on these fantastic results.



Out and About

To get all students achieving, the Health and Physical Education Department offered a third option for students who had missed their chance at a 'safe behaviours' unit. A handful of the 11PED students went out during PE and completed a section of the Hauraki Bike Trail. All students successfully completed the trail and enjoyed the great weather.



Winter Tournament Week

We have six teams busy preparing for Tournament Week, starting on the 27th August to the 2nd of September.

Our Junior A Basketball team are heading to Rotorua for the Junior Premierships.

The Boys and Girls 1st XI Hockey are heading off to Hamilton.

New World College A is finally getting a chance to go to Auckland for UNISS. Third time lucky!

Comag 1st XV are off to defend their title at Rugby by the beach in Papamoa.

For the first time, Equestrian NZ is also putting an event on for Winter Tournament Week. We will have a couple of riders in Taupo competing at this awesome new event.

We look forward to seeing how these teams get on!



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COMMUNITY NOTICES

PTA FUNDRAISER

Our frozen Kai Pai Pies and Savouries fundraiser has launched. Please see the letter we have sent home/emailed or just head to

<https://matamatacollegepies.raiseit.nz/hub>

to sign up for a fundraising page so you can start selling and help us fundraise. We are raising funds to go towards supporting students/families in need of loan devices, school uniforms and helping fund the school lunches programme.

Once you have a page setup share it with friends and family. Sales close on 21 August 21. After the fundraiser, Raise It will send you a report of your sales and you can pick up your products and use that report to get them to your supporters.

Please help support this PTA fundraiser. There are awesome prizes to be won for those that obtain the most sales and profits made, as well as fun spot prizes throughout the campaign.

Upcoming Assessments

Please find attached the upcoming assessment dates for courses working on completing NCEA assessment work during Week 3 - 4. We have attached the teaching codes of the staff. If you have any questions, please email using the two letter code @matcol.nz

Year 11:

Monday 15 August: DSH100 start of build a computer assessment (BL)

Year 12:

Friday 12 August: PEB200 Skill learning (HL)

Year 13:

Tuesday 9 August: PEB300 3.3 PEP internal or 3.9 Devise strategies for a physical activity outcome (DA)

SPORTS CLUB AGM

TO BE HELD IN THE STAFFROOM

WEDNESDAY, 24 AUGUST

7PM

TEACHER ONLY DAY-
Monday, 29 August

August 8th, 2022

The Principal

Matamata College

Matamata College Board Parent Election 2022 - 5 Parent Representatives

At the close of nominations at **12 noon Wednesday, August 3rd**, the following nominations were received for the number of parent vacancies on the School Board.

Craig Alexander

Paul Donderwinkel

Chris Henderson

David Keenan

Nathan Murray

I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Nathan Murray, Chris Henderson, Paul Donderwinkel,
David Keenan and Craig Alexander.

The Returning Officer,
Jennifer McCormack

Matamata Real Estate

LISTINGS FOR LEARNING



Matamata Real Estate are proudly partnering with our school.

Listings for Learning is a fundraising opportunity.

If you or any of your family/friends choose to sell your property exclusively with Matamata Real Estate and mention our school they will donate \$750.00 on the successful sale of your property.

They will also offer you the best commission rate in town!

What are you waiting for?



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