



MATAKOHE SCHOOL

Grow together, learn together

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Wednesday 22nd October 2025

Kia Ora Whānau & Friends,

Flower Show and Calf Club Days were a huge success. I want to extend a big thank you to all who came together to make both days special for the children. We had volunteers who helped the children with their displays, judges who had the difficult task of deciding who would receive the placings, parents who sourced flowers and natives and encouraged, helped and took over looking after 30 animals so that the children could enter our calf and lamb rings and keep the tradition of farm animals in country school shows alive. The staff of Matakohe School appreciate all of your support.



Yesterday we took the whole school on an excursion to Totara House. It is a local iconic house and the Smith family who resided there have a history in Matakohe dating back to 1862. The children got to photograph the house, the garden and draw sketches of the setting. It was a fantastic visit made possible by Pete, who gave us the house tour, Sam, who was instrumental in granting permission for the visit and Tony. Thanks also to Reina and Yvonne who joined us on the day. We will be displaying the photos and sketches and retelling tall tales of Mavis' life in Matakohe at our next Whanau Day on Friday the 7th of November.



The boys toilet block has now been completed and ready for use again. The pool will soon be filled and prepped for swimming to commence and our concrete slab has been cut to avoid any cracking. It is very satisfying to see these projects being completed to improve the school facilities. We have also ordered a new cargo net and wobbly log bridge for our senior playground and once installed we can open these up again for the children to enjoy. Kirsty Hamlin will be in on Tuesday 28th for our pre-summer dry land sessions. She makes children aware of hazards around water and what to do in fresh and salt water situations to keep safe and get out of danger.

Strike Action Reminder

Please remember that all teachers NZ wide are taking industrial action tomorrow, Thursday 23rd of October. The school will not be open for instruction on that day.

Labour Day

Monday is a public holiday, Labour Day. Enjoy the long weekend with your children. Who knows the weather might have settled by then and I'm hoping to get into the garden.

Hand, Foot & Mouth

Please be aware that this is in the wider community. The disease is spread by coughing and forgetting to wash our hands. The time between exposure and sickness is 3-5 days. Early signs can involve a fever, rash on soles as well as palms and in the mouth. They may appear as flu-like symptoms. While a child is unwell we ask that they remain home.

Measles cases in Aotearoa

More measles cases have been reported so just a reminder to be aware of the symptoms;

- Measles is very contagious and can make people of any age very sick.
- Watch for measles symptoms – fever, cough, runny nose, sore eyes and a blotchy rash.
- If anyone in your whānau has measles symptoms keep them home and contact a doctor or Healthline urgently on 0800 611 116.
- Vaccination is the best protection from measles. Check all whānau are immunised.

School Photographs - 31st October

Attached is the order form for school photos. This needs to be returned by 29th October and any money paid either cash or via bank deposit.

Kauri Values

Our K.A.U.R.I. Values are recognized throughout the week with tokens being given out to students who display any of the following; Kindness, Accountability, Unity, Respect or Integrity. Congratulations to: Te Aroha, Hunter, Lucy, Leyahna, Leilani and Cora.

School trophies

If your child has a school trophy at home could they please be returned so we can get them engraved ready for prizegiving 2025.



Citizenship

Congratulations to Joel Oliver who was the recipient of our last citizenship award. We are thrilled at the mature attitude Joel has adopted and how he is making the most of his learning opportunities in preparation for College next year. He also came in every morning over the holidays to help feed the school lambs only missing one day to have a sleep in. Thank you Joel.

Wheels Day

Every Friday students are allowed to bring their wheels to school. Skates, skateboards, bikes, etc. As long as they have covered shoes and a helmet they can ride around our bike track or on the courts.

Stay Connected with Matakohe School Online

Discover what's happening at Matakohe School by visiting our website: matakohe.school.nz. It's your go-to hub for the latest newsletters, information, and insights into our students' learning journeys. Explore our school charter to understand our vision and values, and see how our unique rural setting enriches student experiences. Stay informed and engaged with our vibrant school community, and don't forget to check out the experiences page for photos of our wonderful events!

Fuel for schools

A great programme that schools benefit from. It's very simple. Customers can nominate a participating school to receive 50 cents for every 100L of bulk fuel they have delivered. Once the school has enough credit it chooses what gift they would like. Our Fern Fuel credits have been accruing thanks to the people who have signed up and last week our total was at \$250.34 already. If you would like to sign up to be a supporter using this programme go to fuelforschools@fernenergy.co.nz

Thank you to RJ and JM Battensby, Farmwork Services, Cullands Limited, Ballymalone Farms, Ventsha Farms Limited, JW & HM Wech, Woodleigh Belgian Blues, for being a part of this programme.

Jam jars

If you have any spare jam jars at home with lids can we please have them for making jams and chutneys.

School docs

This is the framework that the board uses for all its policies. To navigate this go to <http://matakohe.schooldocs.co.nz> username is matakohe and password is kauri.

There are always policies that are under review and you can have your say on these. This is under the current review section. These terms reviews are: Bullying & Harassment, Behaviour Management, Searches, surrender & retention of property, Minimising physical restraint, Stand-down, suspension & exclusion, Staff well-being & safety.

Handle with Care

If your family is experiencing difficulties at home we would like to provide additional support at school. If your child is coming to school after a hard night, morning or weekend, please text us "Handle with care". Nothing else will be asked or said, this will let us know that your child may need extra help, patience, time and love during the day. Office 021 0775003

Lunches in schools

School lunches continue to be served up each day and the guidelines we follow ensure they are suitable healthy meals. Children need to bring their own morning tea to school each day and a drink bottle containing water.

Fundraising Fridays

On Fridays we fundraise for the Yr 7 & 8 trip by selling milkshakes - \$2.00. These need to be ordered before school. We also sell mince and cheese pies (\$5) and sausage rolls (\$4) for school fundraising - These need to be ordered before school also, from the office.

Toys/Jewellery at school reminder

Children are not to bring toys or to wear jewellery at school. If your child brings toys, or jewellery they will be held in the office for collection at the end of the week.

Buses

Please be aware that the way you behave on the school bus has an impact not only on the bus driver, but other students on the bus. If any student is misbehaving on the bus it can put all those aboard in a vulnerable situation. The Ministry of Education has a code of conduct and rules regarding the use of the bus service provided. If these rules are breached the child will not be allowed to use this service.

Term 4 Dates:

Thursday 23rd October : Strike Day

Monday 27th October : Labour Day (Public Holiday)

Wednesday 29th October : Ponga Field Trip to MoE

Friday 31st October : School Photos

Friday 7th November : Whanau Day (Tribute to Mavis Smith/Circus Kumarani)

Friday 14th November : Matakohe School Athletics Day

Friday 28th November : Northern Wairoa Athletics Day (Dargaville High School)
Wednesday 3rd December : Ponga Whanau Shared Lunch and C & A presentation
Friday 5th December: Koru shared lunch
Wednesday 10th December : Reports Home
Thursday 11th December : Prize giving (Matakohe Kauri Museum Hall)

Principal - Robyn Young

Community notices

HIPPY

This is a programme based on the belief that parents are their children's first and most important teachers. It is a home based programme that helps parents get their 2-5 yr olds ready for success in education.

We have a very local coordinator for our area, Kimberley McDonald. You can contact her on 027 2584384 or email kim.mcdonald@greatpotentials.org.nz to find out more about this.

Firewood Fundraiser

\$130 a cube, mostly gum with free delivery between Paparoa and Ruawai. Phone John Tullett on 021 2868080. \$30 of this goes to Year 7 & 8 trip.

Tots to Teens digital magazine

issue2509.totstoteens.co.nz

Paparoa Table tennis

Tuesday each week is Table Tennis in Paparoa. Free coaching for kids and teens at 5.30pm at the Sports Pavilion. Bats and balls provided. All levels from age 7 years up welcome (Free). Adults start at 7pm, \$2. Pete 021 0567163

Paparoa Community Library

Great little community asset situated behind the Paparoa Medical Centre, open hours
Mon/Wed 2pm - 4.30pm, Tues 10am - 1.00pm, Thurs 10am - 4pm, Fri 11am - 1.30pm, Sat 10am - 12.00.

