

Principal's Message



Kia Ora Koutou

I have written poems, a song, and prepared a karanga to farewell our year 13, so I have decided to maintain that melodic theme for the last newsletter of the term and the year.

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

So we are singing from the same hymn sheet regarding general health, here are some health alerts and advice from Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora

Pertussis (whooping cough) awareness and prevention ; A pertussis epidemic was declared across Aotearoa New Zealand on 22 November. [Whooping cough epidemic declared across Aotearoa New Zealand – Health New Zealand](#) . Pertussis (also known as whooping cough) can be particularly severe, and sometimes fatal, for babies many of whom require hospital care. Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora is encouraging those who are pregnant or have regular contact with young babies or preschool children to check they are up to date with pertussis vaccinations. [Whooping cough \(pertussis\) vaccine – Health New Zealand](#)

Protect against measles; Measles is a serious and extremely contagious disease that affects adults and children. Measles is increasing in countries that Kiwis travel to frequently, including South-East Asia, Europe and the United States. Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora is encouraging vaccination for people who do not have immunity to measles, particularly those who are planning to travel overseas in the school holidays. [Measles Immunity – Health New Zealand](#) [Measles, mumps and rubella \(MMR\) vaccine – Health New Zealand](#)

Funded meningococcal vaccines for eligible rangatahi ; Meningococcal disease spreads easily in close living situations and can be fatal within hours. Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora is encouraging rangatahi to get a meningococcal vaccine if they are entering their first year of shared accommodation in a boarding school hostel, university halls of residence, military barracks or youth justice facility. [Meningococcal vaccines – Health New Zealand](#)

Support with checking vaccination records ; Advice about vaccines and immunisation records for children aged 16 and under is available from the free vaccination Healthline on 0800 28 29 26, 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. Māori, Pacific and disability support services are available to provide assistance. [Vaccination Healthline - Healthpoint](#)

ERO

We are due for our ERO visit in term one of next year. The function of this type of visit is so the Education Review Office can assess the quality of education provided by a school and ensure that it meets the required standards for student learning and well-being. The main functions of an ERO school visit include evaluating educational quality, reviewing school governance and leadership, assessing student well-being, identifying areas for improvement, reporting to the public, and supporting school development

Leavers' Carol Service

This event had a bumper attendance and some will be saying that this is because you told us we must attend. That's right I did; I am simply complimenting you on your acknowledgement of the fact you are a part of an Anglican school with wonderful traditions.

A few also commented that they could not hear the words to the song I wrote for Year 13, so as I promised here, they are:

A SONG FOR THE LEAVING CLASS

Chorus

*In halls of laughter,
dreams take flight,
We are the girls who shine so bright,
From stages high to fields so wide,
In every heart, our memories abide.
Together we rise, doing it in our stride.*

In trinity classrooms, we found our place,
The largest cohort, a vibrant space,
With each new day, we chased the sun,
From Mary Poppins to Mama Mia fun.
In every challenge, our spirits won.

Chorus

We danced through storms, we played our part,
In Ngātahi, we shared our heart,
Fixtures and matches, we gave our all,
With every cheer, we stood tall,
Together we rose, we'd never fall.

Chorus

Through the trials of a world on pause,
Friendships blossomed, and some took cause,
Yet in every ending, anew we begin,
With laughter and tears, we'd always win,
In the tapestry of life, our stories spin.

Chorus

Now as we stand, looking back in time,
Through the highs and lows, we learned to climb,
From stages bright to fields of green,
In every moment, found our inner queen,
Together forever, our bond serene.

Chorus

*In halls of laughter, dreams take flight,
We are the girls who shine so bright,
From stages high to fields so wide,
In every heart, our memories abide.
Together we rise, doing it in our stride*

2025

Over the next few days we will be preparing the startup information in order for you to know the details of the opening days of the new school year. Just as a heads up, some year 11s will need to come in on Wednesday 22 January to confirm courses. This information will be relayed to those concerned closer to the time. Sunday 26 January sees the return of all Boarders, and at 5pm at my home there will be the 'Meet and Greet' for parents with students new to St Matthew's; again, details will be sent. The first official day of the school year is Monday January 27 January.

Final Assembly- my closing words on Friday

My Prizegiving speech will be in the Prelude for 2024. But for now this was my address to the assembly at Final Assembly.

"On Saturday- naturally- I will have a great deal more to say to you. But in today's final assembly... I will ask if you have been to Paris' Left Bank or Rive Gauche. The Left Bank, duly named, is along the Seine River in Paris France. It is famous for writers, philosophers, and artists. If you have not been to the Left Bank, to create a parallel for you when you drive into Palmerston North you cross a bridge over the Manawatu River. Picture the bank you see as you drive in...on which the scenic walk lies - and imagine it with clusters of artists.

The artists are synonymous by their vocation, and by the scenery that will be common to their paintings- albeit altered by where on the bank they are positioned.

On Activity Day I took time to look at chalk drawings done by years 7 and 8 artists. **Their** 'chosen scenery' was the school year. And although positioned on the 'bank of netball courts'- without consultation (I assume) - they all painted those things which stood out for them about the 'scenery' of the school year. So, what did they 'paint'? Athletics Sports, Swimming Sports, Seussical, Mama Mia, Winter sports, House Music, Matharapa, Lip Sync, Christmas ahead and so much more.

Every single one of those works of art was about **the** Us - and not the Me. Every single piece created by every group of artists used every colour of the rainbow available to them. No colour dominated another – **all colours** were important to the art and **all colours** were needed to create the scene

All of their works focused on Inclusiveness and happy times together.

Every single part of their art spoke to the joy of being a part of something bigger.... St Matthew's.

So far, I have been here 11 years and when I look back at the scenery of my time- my recollections are of all the amazing colleagues, amazing parents, and amazing students who have graced these auditorium seats. Do not get me wrong there have been challenging moments....but my advice to me at those times, and to you when those obstacles appear, is to learn from them and then that learning takes you to where you need to be.

Challenges can also be positive because they are moments when life is about to change for all kinds of reasons and for new learnings to occur. So we have a few staff looking to change their scenery in order to paint you pictures:

To Robyn and Fizz thank you for being you, thank you for being here, we wish you well on your next journeys. We have something for you later

To Amanda Herrick – Buying a business and being in the business of teaching is busy work. We empathise with you having to making this tough choice- but we celebrate your decision with you and wish you much good fortune.

To Katherine Cronin- Hanging up your school apron was a much-considered decision. The new NCEA recipes ahead for Foods- may not have titillated the taste buds... but in the time you have shared with us, you have allowed so many to prepare *and* taste their own morsels. We wish you well for retirement Katherine.

Finally- And again I will say this tomorrow ...Year 13 and others departing from our banks to journey new rivers. Go well.

Thank you for all you have contributed and thank you for all you will contribute to the world

Always be your best selves. Look out for the startup letter coming in January.

Have a great and safe break, and a wonderful Christmas.

Ngā Mihi Nui

Kia Ora Tatou Katoa

Kiri



Around School

Boarding Note

Thursday night was a lovely way to end the term with our annual Boarders' Christmas Dinner. Many thanks to Charlotte Kirk and her team who decorated the dining room and organised the arrival of Santa (Pippa McLaren) and her trusty helpers. The night was a great way to celebrate boarding by acknowledging those for all their hard work throughout the year and to send off our Year 13's and tutors in style.

The night finished with the tradition of a chat with Santa over what each Year 13 has planned for next year and a chance to share their best boarding memory.

Below left to right with Santa: Milly Hewitt and Maya Handyside; Olivia Guscott; Pia White and Morgan Wilson followed by a group photo of some of our Year 13 boarders, and lastly our winners of the term 4 photo competition- Zeta Radford, Harper Gillies and Alexandra Read.



Wishing everyone in the St Matthew's Community a very happy and safe holiday season, and all the very best for 2025.

Jo



Last couple of days of school year in pictures



Catering Contract Update

We are delighted to announce the successful appointment of Cater Plus as our new school caterer. This decision was made after carefully considering the valuable feedback from our recent surveys and completing a robust procurement process. This involved Principals, students, Boarding Directors, and staff. We are confident that Cater Plus will provide high-quality, nutritious, and delicious meals that our students will enjoy.

We appreciate your input and support throughout this process. Your feedback was instrumental in guiding our decision, and we believe that Cater Plus will meet and exceed our community's expectations.

Our transition plan is thorough, with a particular focus on ensuring everything is in place for day one. We are working closely with Cater Plus to a smooth transition, from menu planning to logistics, to ensure the students receive high-quality meals without disruption. All the best laid plans inevitably suffer from speed bumps, and these will likely be tested in the first few weeks of operation. However, Cater Plus are very experienced in working with schools (as well as many other organisations) and are aware of all the requirements.

Our team, along with Cater Plus, is committed to providing a positive dining experience for our students from the very start. Thank you for your continued trust and partnership as we make this move. We look forward to your feedback.

Happy holidays on your personal catering frontier!

Cheers

Cath Archer

Chief Executive

Trinity Schools Trust Board

Key Dates

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Monday 27th January | First day of Term 1 2025 |
| Thursday 6th February | Waitangi Day stat |
| Friday 7th February | Extended Waitangi break |
| Monday 2nd June | King's Birthday stat |
| Tuesday 3rd June | Teacher Only Day |
| Friday 20th June | Matariki stat |

2025 Term Dates

- Term One** - Monday 27th January to Friday 11 April
- Term Two** - Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June
- Term Three** - Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September
- Term Four** - Monday 6th October to Saturday 6 December

School App

If you are new to St Matthew's Collegiate, or have yet to download, please follow the link to install our school app <https://schoolappsnz.co.nz/install>

For current families, please update your subscription groups by clicking on the cog in the top right hand of the screen. It will take you to the groups for you to change.



Stay 'Connected'
With our School App!

Simply Download 'SchoolappsNZ' from the Google Play or App Store & search your school once installed.



Welcome to NZ Uniforms, Masterton

We are extremely proud to be the stockists of the school uniform range for the Trinity Schools.

Our new store is now open at 72 Ngaumutawa Road where your school uniform range is displayed, along with a full range of accessories including school shoes, socks, bags, shoe care, hair accessories and more.



A full selection of services and options are available including name labelling, the NZ Uniforms 'Uniform Club' and Gift Cards, online ordering, click and collect, Zip and Afterpay. The Masterton team can provide further information to you on the options above.

We would like to sincerely thank you for your patience as we re-stock your uniform items. We are out of stock in some sizes and styles at the moment but our factories are currently working on your uniform range and we look forward to having everything in stock by January 15th 2025. If you know the sizes you require, you may order in-store or online and we will backorder these items for you.

To allow for additional shopping time before school starts in 2025, in January we will open until 4pm on Saturdays and we are opening exclusively for the Trinity Schools families on Sunday 19th and Sunday 26th January from 9am-1pm.

We look forward to welcoming you and our families into our Masterton store.

Our Store

72 Ngaumutawa Road, Masterton.

P: 06 929 8233 | E: masterton@nzuniforms.com

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-3pm*

(*January Sat 9am-4pm, Sun 19th & 26th 9am-1pm).

Order Online

- rathkeale.nzuniforms.com
- stmatts.nzuniforms.com
- hadlow.nzuniforms.com

SELLING YOUR UNIFORM SECOND HAND

The St Matthew's Uniform Shop sells second hand uniform, on your behalf.

When an item of clothing sells, the shop retains a 30% commission, the amount owing to you is then credited to your daughter's school account. For uniform that is sold after your daughter leaves, a bank account number, name of the account and email address will be required.

Clothing will get the best price when it is CLEAN; the Blazer, Tunic Dress and Senior Skirt should be dry cleaned. Please attend to discoloured underarms and collars before soaking white blouses in a stain removing laundry soaker (don't use bleach as this will fade the crest).

Uniform can be brought into the shop on Tuesdays and Thursdays 3pm – 4pm during term time. Uniform may alternatively be left at the school office, marked "For Sale, attention UNIFORM SHOP" Please make sure that it is securely boxed up, with your daughter's name included.

Current style PE tops & shorts, ties & caps are sold second hand, but any money generated will be a donation to the shop.

ITEMS NOT SOLD SECOND HAND IN THE UNIFORM SHOP:

- Hoodies
- Togs
- Hockey/Football socks
- Shoes and Sandals
- Black ankle socks
- Old style PE tops and shorts

St Matthew's second hand uniform (Holiday shop hours)

If you have uniform to sell and would like to bring it directly to the uniform shop during the holidays, here are the dates:

Monday 16th December – by appointment only.

By appointment – during the week Monday 13th – Friday 17th January.

The shop will be open (no appointment needed) Tuesday 21st - Friday 24th January, 10am - 3pm each day.

Please note that the shop will not be open on Monday 20th January being Anniversary day.

The shop will also be open as usual on the last Sunday of the holidays. Sunday 26th January 2pm – 5pm.

Juliet Smith: smcsuniforms@trinityschools.nz

Community News and Events



Parent & Child Tournament 2024

Held at Martinborough Lawn Tennis Club
Sunday 15th December

Key Information Sheet

VENUE :

Martinborough Tennis Centre,
Cnr Regent and Oxford Street

GRADES:

8 & Under, 10 & Under, 12 & Under,
14 & Under, and Open.
(Age as at 31st December 2024)

TEAM FORMAT:

- 1 child & 1 adult. Adult can be parent, grandparent, guardian, extended family.
- Open grade – no age limit, doubles pairing needs to be immediate family (parent/grandparent).

Either the child or the Adult must be affiliated to a Wairarapa Tennis Club or school.

MATCH FORMAT:

Doubles only – First to 9 with tie break at 8 all.
All teams guaranteed at least three matches (weather permitting).

BALLS: Dunlop AO Balls for 12& under grade and above.

Green balls for 10 and under grades.

PRIZES for each age group.

START TIMES

Briefing 8:45am; 9.00am start.

ENTRY:

\$40.00 per team
Payable by Internet in advance, to Wairarapa Tennis Association
03 0687 0326225 00
Please use child's surname as reference, or cash on the day.

ENTRIES:

Now open, by Google Form:
<https://forms.gle/taaFrMcgRGKUr8a36>

Link to form also available on WT website

ENTRIES CLOSE: 5pm Thursday 12th December. The Draw will be issued on the day. Results will not be entered into MatchHub

WHAT TO BRING: Bring lunch and snacks, Some food will be available on the day, Players to bring their own racquet, suitable clothing, footwear, drink bottle, a hat and sunscreen.

CANCELLATION: Players will be notified by email by 7.30am on Sunday 15th December if the tournament is cancelled due to bad weather.

KEY CONTACTS:

Entries:& Info prior: Rebecca Pearce
Email: wairapatennis@gmail.com

On the day: Marco de Groot
mrcdgrt33@gmail.com

ACTING ANTICS

Self Discovery Through Performance™

Summer Theatre Camps

- Audition rehearse & perform a fully costumed play in 4 days!
- Fabulous costumes!
- Every student gets a role with dialogue!
- Learn acting, stagecraft & performance skills!
- Strictly limited places!

December 17-20 "Bah Humbug"



Bah Hum Bug is set in the LMA (Leave Me Alone) Retirement Home for the rich & famous. Join Dr. Troy, Sister Grimsby & the nursing staff as they prepare for the arrival of celebrity TV presenter Tina Talkalot and her sidekicks Taffy & Toots for the interview of the year. What could possibly go wrong? But they hadn't counted on cleaners, Jose and Cactus, or Vera, the forgetful tea lady, getting in on the action.

Hans and Heidi have been caught cheating at cards again. The Grand Shuffler is very disappointed, so he decides to teach them a lesson by removing the four Aces from the pack. No more card games ever again! The Aces have been sent to the Land of the Bogels, the Land of the Dryads, and the Land of Dreams, but the Joker has escaped and cast a spell on the Grand Dream Giver so he can only give bad dreams! Can Hans & Heidi find the Aces and return them to the pack and halt the Joker's evil scheme? Will there ever be good dreams again?



January 21- 24 "The Joker's Wild"

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Ages: | 8 to 13 years (No previous experience required) |
| Venue: | St Matthew's Collegiate School |
| Hours: | Program operates 9am-3pm - Venue open 8:30am-3:30pm |
| Performance: | 3pm on the final day in the Auditorium |
| Fees: | \$195 (Includes tuition, script, costumes, Acting Antics book bag, Kids Club folder & performance certificate) |
| Director: | Deborah Percy |

In association with **St Matthew's Collegiate School**

REGISTER: www.wairarapa.actingantics.com, ENQUIRIES: deborah@actingantics.com - 0211832508

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Friends & Family Christmas Deals

From 6 Dec - 20 Dec 2024



**cost*
+ 5%**

TVs, Computers,
Whiteware & Cellular[^]

**cost*
+ 7.5%**

storewide,
exclusions apply[^]

15% off all tech solutions
service offers[^]

Scan this
barcode instore



OR

Use this
code online

FFKURAWHANAU

Offers in this flyer run between 6th Dec - 20th Dec 2024, while stocks last. *Cost reflects the average cost price of the product. [^]Conditions and exclusions apply. See full terms and conditions for offer [here](#).

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Over 65 stores nationwide

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HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

AGE: 7-14yo

TIME: 9am -12pm

MASTERTON

DATE: 17 - 19 December

LOCATION: Rathkeale College

COST: \$50/ day OR \$120 for 3 days

REGISTER: www.paulifill.com

In association with



**10 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY TOUR**



**CARTERTON
CARRINGTON PARK
7-8 DECEMBER**

SUMMER FOOTBALL



22nd January - 26th February 2025
Howard Booth Park Carterton

Family FUN Grade

8 a side - Minimum 5 players on the field must be aged 5-14 years

FUN grade, no refs OR scores kept, played in fun and laughter

6pm kick off

\$200 per team

Mixed Social Grade

Ages 14+

7-a-side Minimum 3 players must be female

Refs provided

7pm kick off

\$250 per team

Competition Grade Opportunity

Interested in a competitive league with prize money?

If more than 4 teams are interested then we will run this on

Tuesdays at 6pm

\$250 per team

Registration closes January 18th or when league is filled.

For more details email teresa.shailer@gmail.com



Is there room in your home for one more?

A weekend, a week, or sometimes longer
- the choice is yours



We are looking for caring families to be part of a Christian community response who are willing to open up their heart and home to provide respite care for a child or young person.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Find out more about this exciting ministry

For further information, please contact:

our Foster Parent Recruiter, Tania

Wairarapa Service Centre

027 483 5626

Tania.Woodbridge@ohf.org.nz

www.ohf.org.nz

A Christian Community Response

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