

# STAR BOARD

SMCS

TRINITY SCHOOLS  
ST MATTHEW'S

Term Three, Week Ten

## Principal's Message



### Kia ora koutou,

As we reach the end of term, there's a collective *phew*—and rightly so. It's been a big one. But with that sigh of relief comes a moment to pause and reflect. Those “phew” moments? They've been rich with learning, laughter, and a few character-building challenges. The upcoming holidays are well-earned, and I hope each of you gets the chance to rest, recharge, and reconnect.

### House Music

Is it just me, or does this event keep getting better every year? Last night's House Music wasn't just a showcase of talent—it was a celebration of spirit. House pride, school pride, friendship, fierce competition, and just the right amount of chaos. It was magic.

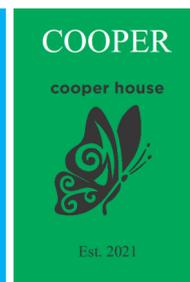
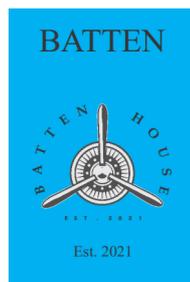
Yes, it's a cliché to say "everyone was a winner," but in this case, it's the honest truth. Every House walked away with recognition—thanks in no small part to the incredible leadership and enthusiasm of the House Captains. Their ability to rally, support, and spotlight the unique strengths of their teams made all the difference.

A huge thank you to Mr Andrew Atkins, who once again pulled off an exceptional event, supported by our ever-dedicated team of staff. They say it takes a village to raise a child—well, it takes a whole-hearted St Matthew's community to pull off a night like that.

### Special Congratulations

A big congratulations to Batten House, who took out the overall award on the night. And let's hear it for all the House leaders who led with passion, positivity, and a dash of performance flair:

- Batten: Maggie, Izzie, and Poppy
- Cooper: Morgan, Stella, and Izzy
- Sheppard: Madeleine, Milly, and Izzy
- Wake: Priya, Poppy, and Emily



You've done yourselves—and your Houses—proud.

### Te Wiki O Te Reo Māori- my view

I am extraordinarily aware that sometimes my words are 'blurry' [some of you might find that reference relatable] but without defending the words I deliver... I am sure the discerning will understand my messages come from a place of care, experience, and are sometimes cautionary.

Currently the focus value and mark are Inclusiveness and Treasure, and This week is *Te Wiki o te Reo Māori*. The irony of this week is never lost on me — I am Māori every day.

**Ko tāku tūmanako ka whakanui ngāi Māori i tō tātou Māoritanga ia rā, ia tau.**

**I hope all Māori celebrate being Māori every day of every year.**

Now I want to tell you a story which speaks to both of these – it is sobering in parts but tells a tale of the importance of these concepts particularly for me and perhaps for anyone who can recognise this in their own lives. I am hopeful that I contain my emotions but here goes..

I want to talk about the importance of **inclusiveness** and how we can truly live out the **Mark of Mission: 'To treasure'** — to protect and honour the richness of life, identity, and culture.

If you think life is tough... geepers try growing up in a time when corporal punishment was the norm. Our experiences made us tough... and wary.

So here is my story.

As I young one I ... and then my sister attended what was termed a native school. Every day (by my mother's choice) we were sent to school in an Edwards (my maiden name) uniform of a black gym tunic and a white blouse.

Our teacher, Mr Baker and his family were placed in the area to educate us -and others- from the small community we lived in alongside his own children.

Lessons were standard for the time, and in a classroom not too dissimilar to that found at Cobblestones (take a trip there if you have not already) and visit the schoolroom.

One regular activity was standing next to the teacher and reading aloud from varying readers. We Edwards kids were smart so we got through the readers with reasonable ease. However, one of those readers is forever etched in my brain. The reader was all about Planes/ Aircrafts.

I would stand next to the teacher and rattle off the words ... and with pride get to the Viscount, the last plane in the book. Then my teacher would ask me to say my name. Back then I pronounced it correctly.

“Kiri (Kiddy)” said I.

At that point he took from his table a leather strap (action) and hit me hard across the palm of my hand -BANG

The pain was excruciating and reverberated through my six-year-old body. At that time I had no clue which word I had got wrong- I was sure they were all correct.

The reader was repeated and the question asked again...again the strap.

By the end of the school day – I went home confused and my hand a swollen pulpy mess.

This continued for a few days till my mother and father tolerated it no more.

It stopped.

It was years later that my six-year-old ignorance became that of a teenager enlightened, and now as an adult whose scars would never want that to happen to her or anyone...because what happened to me was condoned suppression.

Years followed that my siblings and I hated having Māori names – it labelled us. I was punished way back then for having my name. My brother was spared what felt like an indignity because it was harder for the males.

Looking back- it was unfair that a country that boasts of its racial harmony allowed this to happen.

For many years in Aotearoa New Zealand, **Te Reo Māori — the language of the tangata whenua — was not valued or respected**. From the late 1800s through much of the 1900s, Māori children were **punished for speaking their own language at school**. Although there was no official law banning Te Reo, schools and the government pushed English-only policies. These policies were part of a wider effort to make Māori people give up their language and culture in order to fit into a European way of life.

This had a deep impact, especially on young Māori like me. Many were made to feel **ashamed of their identity**. Some were hurt, silenced, and disconnected from their culture. Over time, whole generations grew up **unable to speak their own language** — leading to a loss of stories, customs, and spiritual knowledge that are deeply connected to Te Reo Māori.

But out of that pain, perhaps even my pain has come strength and change.

From the 1970s onwards, Māori leaders, communities, and whānau rose up to reclaim their reo. They started **Kōhanga Reo, Kura Kaupapa Māori**, and fought for legal recognition of Te Reo as an **official language** in 1987. Their work is ongoing — and we are all invited to be part of it.

So how does this relate to us?

When we say we are an **inclusive** community, we are called to **value every language, every culture, and every identity**. We are called and rightly so that as Kaiako and Kura to make sure we celebrate difference. The Mark of Mission — **‘To Treasure’** — is a reminder that people are taonga. Their stories, their ways of being, and their languages are worth protecting.

Let's be people who make space for others, who learn from the past, and who celebrate the richness of all cultures — especially those that were once silenced.

He taonga te reo. The language is a treasure. So are the people who speak it.

## **ERO Visit**

We were fortunate to have a positive and insightful visit from the ERO review team. Their wisdom, experience, and outside perspective were genuinely appreciated.

It was affirming to hear that we are serving our ākongā and wider community well. Equally valuable was the guidance they provided around areas for growth—reminding us that there is always room to refine, improve, and strive for better. That ongoing pursuit of excellence is at the heart of what we do.

## **As the Term Ends...**

As we head into the break, take care of yourselves and one another. Be your best selves. Make good choices. Be safe, be sensible—and take the time to rest and reset.

Ngā Mihi Nui



# Boarding Note

Kia Ora Koutou.

Well done everyone on a fabulous House Music night. It was fantastic to see the girls up on the stage doing their thing and having a great time. The photo below was taken earlier in the week as some of our Year 10's were busy polishing their shoes before the big night.

Thank you to the boarders who entered our "Main House Make Over" competition. Pictured below- Sienna, Sophia, Kiera, Abbey, Heidi, Zeta (Absent: Grace and Annabelle.) Although there were only a few entries, the suggestions these girls made to bring alive our Main House foyer area were excellent. It will take time to make change but their ideas are a great starting point.

Outside of House Music, the boarders have been busy packing and cleaning up before departing for the holidays. A reminder that all boarders are expected to return to boarding on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October between 3-5pm. Note, Orah passes must be accurate so that we know who is in boarding during Derived Grade Examinations.

Enjoy the break and time together with your families.

Ngā mihi.  
Jo



What's on the menu this week?



Launch the Camera App and aim your camera at the QR Code to scan it.



# Winter Sports Awards 2025

## HOCKEY

### Team awards

Primary Green Hockey  
Most Valuable Player Louisa Wilkie  
Commitment and Contribution Sophia Tosswill

Primary Gold Hockey  
Most Valuable Player Rosie Falloon  
Commitment and Contribution Zara Jorgensen  
and Isabella Paton-Sentch

Year 8 Hockey  
Most Improved Player Zoe Pearce  
Commitment and Contribution Nhia Witinitara

Stars Hockey  
Most Valuable Player Tilly Giesen  
Most Improved Player Rosalie Hardie

Jnr Development Hockey  
Most Valuable Player Maddison Morris  
Commitment and Contribution Grace Jaspers

Senior Hockey  
Most Valuable Player Grace Johnson  
Commitment and Contribution Poppy Tatham

1st XI Hockey  
Most Improved Player  
Georgie Donald

### Wairarapa U13 Representative programme

Ruby Bremner  
Rosie Falloon  
Holly Johnston  
Zara Jorgensen  
Isabella Paton-Sentch  
Zoe Pearce  
Hetty Shaw  
Paige Shearing  
Hattie Speirs  
Daphne Tulloch  
Evie White  
Nhia Witinitara

### Wairarapa U15 Representative team A

Grace Johnson  
Grace Kennedy  
Maddison Morris  
Olivia Orsborn  
Isobella Shearing – level 1  
for 1st

### Wairarapa U15 Representative team B

Abi Craig  
Grace Jaspers  
Charlotte Johnson  
Sarah Kirkup  
Olivia Kooiman  
Madeleine Lock  
Isla Thomson  
Ada Wilkie  
Annabelle Wyeth

### Trophies

**SMS Broad Cup – Head of Hockey**  
Winner: **Sophie Williams**

**Sim Cup for Primary Hockey – Most valuable Primary Hockey Player**  
Winner: **Holly Johnston**

**P.M. Haughey Cup – Most Valuable Year 9 & 10 Hockey Player**  
Winner: **Isobella Shearing**

**Olivia Pearce Cup – Dedication and Commitment to 1st XI Hockey**  
Winner: **Madeline Kennedy**

**Baron Family Cup – Most valuable 1st XI Hockey Player**  
Winner: **Meg Speedy**

### Wairarapa U18 Representative team

Georgina Donald  
Olivia Fenwick  
Sam Huggins  
Madeleine Kennedy  
Gabriella Nicholson  
Meg Speedy  
Ella Stratford – level 1 for 1st  
Francesca Wells  
Sophie Williams

## NETBALL

### Team awards

Primary 7's Netball  
Most Valuable Player Rosie Falloon  
Most Improved Player Kiera Mende

Primary 8's Netball  
Most Valuable Player Nhia Witinitara  
Most Improved Player Charlotte Wallace

Primary A Netball  
Most Improved Player Hattie Spiers  
Commitment and Contribution  
Henrietta Shaw

Jnr Yellow Netball  
Most Improved Player Molly Jurlina  
Commitment and Contribution Tilly Giesen

Jnr Green Netball  
Most Valuable Player  
Phoebe Fleming  
Most Improved Player  
Isabelle Olds

Jnr Silver Netball  
Most Valuable Player Sasha Handley-Craig  
Most Improved Players Abbey Upshon  
and Brennagh Eddy

Jnr Gold Netball  
Most Valuable Players Zeta Radford  
and Samantha Fawcett  
Most Improved Player Ruby Wriggley

### Team awards

Yr 11 Netball  
Most Valuable Player Clara Andrews  
Most Improved Player Lily Eales

Yr 12 Social Netball  
Most Valuable Player Charli Grenfel  
Most Improved Player Victoria Booth

Yr 13 Social Netball  
Most Valuable Player Ramona Lively-Masters  
Most Improved Player Madeline Kennedy

Snr Stars Netball  
Most Valuable Player Daniella Duckett  
Most Improved Player Georgia Hepburn

Development Netball  
Most Valuable Player Isobella Shearing  
Commitment and Contribution Zoe Svenson

Senior A Netball  
Most Improved Player Isobella Edge

## FOOTBALL

### Team awards

Saints Football  
Most Valuable Player Annabelle Wyeth  
Most Improved Player Annabelle Hepburn

Stars Football  
Most Valuable Player Lily Boggs  
Most Improved Player Sophia Carrol

Strikers Football  
Most Valuable Player April Wyeth  
Commitment and Contribution  
Zoe Svenson

1st XI Football  
Commitment and Contribution  
Morgan Dudley

### Trophies

**SMS Jane Knox Cup – Head of Football**  
Winner: **Morgan Dudley**

**Most Valuable Primary Footballers**  
Winner: **Paige Shearing and Holly Johnston**

**Most Valuable Year 9 & 10 Footballer**  
Winner: **Phoebe Slater**

**Most Valuable 1st XI Footballer**  
Winner: **Lilly Reynolds**

**The Wensley Cup – For Contribution and Effort in Football at SMS**  
Winner: **Mia Sayers**

## SQUASH

**SMS/Masterton Squash Cup**  
**Highest Graded Player Of The Year.**  
Winner: **Sophie Sweeney**

## BASKETBALL

**The Duncan Cup**  
**For Attitude and Commitment in Basketball**  
Winner: **Evie Leach**

## CROSS COUNTRY

**Ewen Cross Country Cup**  
**First Senior Home at the highest competition attended.**  
Winner: **Riley Galbreath**

## NETBALL

### Trophies

**The Kirsty Rowan Cup – Heads of Netball**  
Winner: **Kaitlyn Williams and India Bartlett**

**Sim Cup – Most Valuable Primary Netballer**  
**For outstanding performance and commitment to the game.**  
Winner: **Holly Johnston**

**Green Cup – Most Valuable Year 9 & 10 Netballer**  
Winner: **Katelyn Corbett**

**Most Valuable SNR A Netballer**  
**For outstanding performance throughout the season.**  
Winner: **Ava Edge and Maia Svenson**

**Georgina Wimsett Cup**  
**For the Senior A player whose example of Sportsmanship and Commitment to the team embodies the spirit of sport at St Matthew's.**  
Winner: **Kaitlyn Williams**

**Wairarapa U14 Representative team**  
Samantha Fawcett  
Georgie Didsbury  
Phoebe Slater

**Wairarapa U16 Representative team**  
Ava Edge  
Isobella Shearing  
Katelyn Corbett – level 1 snr A  
Amelia Didsbury – level 1 Snr A

**Wairarapa U18 Representative team**  
Katelyn Williams  
Isobella Edge  
Maggie Thomson  
Maia Svenson

**Codes not listed will be awarded Term 4**

# House Music 2025



Congrats Batten

# Te Wiki o te Reo Māori

During assembly on Wednesday Mrs Gill shared a story of what it was like to grow up as a young māori wahine in New Zealand. Thank you Mrs Gill for sharing your story and showing our girls the deep and ongoing significance of Te Wiki o te Reo Māori . We then were able to celebrate the Yr 11 Presentation of Kakahu followed by a performance from our Ngā Manu Tioriori o Hato Matiu (the songbirds of St Matthew's).



## Year 11 Presentations of Kakahu

Prefect Head of Culture by Marese Napier

Prefect Head of Boarding by Sophie Whyte

Prefect Head of Service by Charlotte Macauley

Prefect Head of Sport by Clara Andrew

Prefect Head of Chapel by Emily Kirk



After the presentations on Wednesday all leaders at St Matthew's will have a Kakahu huruhuru to wear on formal occasions.

Thank you to the year 11 Fashion students for the stunning results they have created, making this idea become a reality.



Around School



# Kapa Haka Festival



## YR 7 Art

In art, Year 7 have been making Pop Art name tags, which have been a lot of fun!



# Solway Inter-School dressage Event.

**Blown away—literally and metaphorically—by the girls and their results today. Our junior team blew everyone out of the water!**

## Individual Results:

Zahara Winyard – 3rd, Level 1A  
Mackenzie Boderick – 3rd, Level 0B  
Florence Kershaw – 4th, Level 0D  
Bella Wallace – 1st, Level 0D & 1st, Intermediate Rider

## Team Results:

Intermediate Team Champions  
Overall Team Champions



## Pickleball - Staff (14) vs (14) Students



# Karaitianatanga/Christianity Alive

As conclude our journey through this school term and embark on a well deserved break, Psalm 101 serves as a timely reminder of the kind of character God calls us to – both in leadership and in daily life. King David declares his commitment to living with integrity, saying, “I will lead a life of integrity in my own home,” “Ka haereere ahau i roto i toku whare i runga i te ngakau tapatahi.” In our school community, this means striving to be honest in our actions, kind in our relationships and faithful in our responsibilities.

At St Matthew’s Collegiate, we encourage students and staff alike to pursue lives of integrity – not just when others are watching, but in the quiet moments that reveal our true character. May we be a generation that chooses what is right, rejects what is evil and seeks to honour Christ in all we do.

Let Psalm 101 inspire us to live with purpose, lead with integrity and love as Christ has loved us.

Rev. Wendy



## Trinity Schools Community Survey

As we look ahead to the future for the Trinity family of schools, we want to understand what really matters to our school community. Please click on the link to complete a short survey.

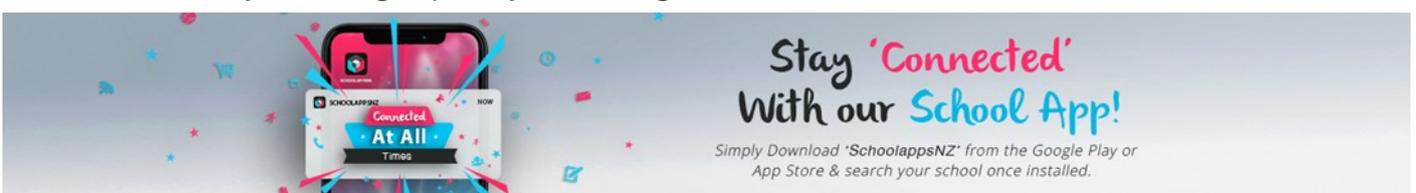
[Here is the link to the parent / caregivers survey.](#)

Cath Archer, CEO, Trinity Schools Trust Board (TSTB)

## 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://schoolapps.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.



## Squash

Congratulations to Sophie Sweeney who has been selected in the Wellington Squash team, who will be representing Wellington at the 2025 Junior Squash Nationals, which will be taking place in Auckland from the 26-30th September. She is part of a 10 strong Wellington squad, which is made up of 5 girls and 5 boys.



## Key Dates

- **Monday 6 October - First Day Term Four**
- **6 –10 October - Yr11 Derived Grade Exams**
- **7 –14 October - Senior College Derived Grade Exams**
- **Saturday 25 October - Exeat Weekend**
- **Monday 27 October - Labour Day**
- **Thursday 30 October - Last day for Seniors**

## 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



**We will be getting rid of all unclaimed clothing lost property on the last day of this term.**

School uniform will be gifted to the uniform shop.  
 Non-uniform clothing will be put into a clothing bin for a charity.

**Any unclaimed small items after two terms will be disposed of as follows:**

Bank cards – will be sent back to the bank  
 Glasses – donated to Specsavers to the Fred Hollows Foundation  
 Rings/Earrings/Bracelets/Necklaces – donated to a charity shop  
 Electronics - donated to a charity shop  
 Phones – given to a mobile company for recycling  
 Snapper Cards – will be destroyed

NAME :

*Thank You*



[Facebook](#)

[Website](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[School Notices](#)

## SMOGA Grant Now Open!

### Gretchen Williamson Excellence in Commerce Scholarship

Applications are now open for the Gretchen Williamson Excellence in Commerce Scholarship, available to Year 13 students intending to study Commerce at tertiary level. This prestigious scholarship offers \$5,000 in funding over two years, as well as mentorship from Gretchen Williamson — a leading financial adviser and St Matthew's Old Girl.

Gretchen is passionate about supporting young women into careers in finance and investment. This scholarship is part of her ten-year commitment to helping close the wealth gap for women through education and opportunity.

Applications close on **24 October 2025**, with the recipient announced at Prizegiving in December.

For more information and to apply, visit <https://forms.gle/adGVwP9CMqPqpdyg7>





# Donations Welcome

TO ALL OUR WHANAU -  
WE ARE SEEKING DONATIONS OF  
ITEMS FOR THE FRIENDS RAFFLE FOR  
THE FETE THIS YEAR.

WE WOULD ADORE THOSE ITEMS YOU  
BOUGHT AND COULD NOT USE, IN  
FACT SURPRISE US BECAUSE WE WILL  
BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT.  
ALL DONATIONS TO THE SMCS OFFICE



Thank you!

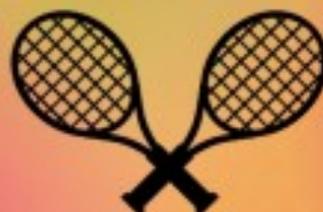


# Parent & Daughter tennis tournament

JOIN US FOR A FAMILY FRIENDLY TENNIS COMPETITION AND  
BBQ HERE AT SMS!

12th of October

12AM-4PM



SIGN UPS AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE AND ALL!  
Just email Morgan at 222071@trinityschools.nz and  
for any further questions.



Pasifika  
O WAIARAPA  
SCHOOL

Yr7 - Yr13

## PASIFIKA STUDY CENTRE WEDNESDAYS

from 330pm - 5pm!

23 Intermediate Street



Professional  
Assistance  
provided

Snacks  
Provided !!



Homework  
to catch up on!  
Need Help!



Contact: 0800 727 924

[www.pw.org.nz](http://www.pw.org.nz)



THE FRIENDS OF RATHKEALE COLLEGE

### Donate Designer Clothing & Make a Difference!

We are looking for donations of designer and brand-name clothing for our pre-loved charity clothing stall at the upcoming Rathkeale Christmas Fete.

Help us turn high fashion into high impact! All proceeds go directly to the Friends of Rathkeale to support student resources.

We are collecting: (clean and in great condition)

- Adult and teen clothing
- Designer handbags and shoes
- Popular labels

Please only donate items in **great condition**, just one or two quality items would be greatly appreciated.

### Donation Drop-Off:

Please drop any donations into either the Rathkeale or St Matthews school office during September and October.

Thank you for your support.

*"Eia hoi, eia hoi, ko wai eia hoi,  
Many hands make light work"*

# Community News and Events



**Science ROADSHOW**

9:30am -- 4:30pm daily  
Admission \$10 per person  
A great hands-on entertaining and educational school holiday science experience for the family!

**22 SEPT - 3 OCT** Asteron Centre, corner Featherston & Bunny Streets



**1/2 Price Kids Entry**  
these school holidays!

**Staglands**  
Wildlife Reserve & Café  
EST. 1972



**GET YOUR LICENCE**

The ultimate course for new drivers to get their learners

Book your spot now  
Courses across WGTN region

**22nd September to 4th October**

**\$200 per person + licencing fee**

Brought to you by **vtnz**



**HAKA ACADEMY**

22-24 MAHURU 2025  
MĀKOURA COLLEGE HALL  
TAU 9 - 13

Tēna tātou e te whānau.

I am running a **Haka Academy** during the holidays and wanting to offer to any students from your school that have invested in Te Ao Haka at your school. All the details are in the link below.

**When:** 22-24 September, 2025

**Where:** Mākoura College Hall

Tutors: Shari Taylor-Kawana, Maioha Riwai-Couch, Taitemaha Taiaroa, William Ratapu. If your students are keen please let them know to fill the link. The account for payment is also attached. Students must pay before the 17<sup>th</sup> to participate 😊

[HAKA ACADEMY FORM](#)

This is a great opportunity for students to strengthen their skills in Kapa Haka for the years to come.

Let me know if you have any questions please let me know.

Arohanui,  
Shari Taylor-Kawana



**ACTING ANTICS**  
Self Discovery Through Performance™

Holiday Production - Tuesday 30 September to Friday 3 October

**"Aladdin and the Magic Lamp"**

The magic and mystery of far off Arabia come alive as Aladdin and his brother Ishan tangle with two magic genies; Genie of the Lamp and Genie of the Ring. However, Khalifah the Sorcerer and his sister Fatimah, a fortune teller, have also heard about the power of the Genie of the Lamp and are determined to gain control of it. Will they manage to trick Aladdin's Mother into giving up the lamp? Can the street urchins rescue Aladdin & Ishan from the cave Khalifah has imprisoned him in? What happens when Aladdin meets Princesses Ameera and Nashita, the Sultan's daughters? Exotic costumes, stories of riches beyond your wildest dreams, treachery and intrigue abound in this exciting adventure.



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

**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  
**Free performance on Friday at 3pm**  
**Fees:** \$195 (Includes tuition, script, costumes, Acting Antics book bag, Kids Club folder & performance certificate)  
**Director:** Deborah Percy

REGISTER: [www.masterton.actingantics.com](http://www.masterton.actingantics.com)  
ENQUIRIES: [deborah@actingantics.com](mailto:deborah@actingantics.com) - 021 1832508