

STAR BOARD

SMCS

TRINITY SCHOOLS
ST MATTHEW'S

Term Four, Week Two

Principal's Message



Kia ora koutou,

Before I go any further, a quick reminder: if you have not yet completed the TSTB survey, please check your email for the link. It was included in our last terms newsletters Wk 9 and Wk10, but since some missed it, we have tried a different way of reaching you this time. If you have already had your say — thank you.

I also want to thank you — and I say this boldly — for your support of the recent partial strike action. As I have communicated before, there may be further action ahead. Principals are only given official confirmation three days in advance, but I have already given you an outline of what that could look like in previous updates.

These actions have required some adjustment to teaching and learning. We are proud of the way our students have responded and grateful for their understanding and cooperation.

Seasons of Change

Today we welcomed our 2026 cohort of new students for Orientation Day — those who will join us in Years 7, 8, and 9 next year. Below is the message I shared with them this morning:

"I am so pleased to welcome you — our newest members of the St Matthew's whānau — to our special place. Whether you're joining us in Year 7, 8, or 9 in 2026, you are already an important part of our future. You might be feeling a mix of things — nervous, excited, a little unsure. That's completely normal. You're stepping into something new, leaving behind what's familiar. Some of you might even be bringing a bit of 'old school baggage' with you — questions, worries, or memories. That's okay. Here's what I want you to know: you are not starting over alone. You're joining a school where people will know your name, care about who you are, and want you to succeed. Our students and staff are looking forward to meeting you — not just for your grades, but for the person you are. This is a place to grow, be challenged, laugh, lead, make mistakes, and discover new things about yourself. It's a place where faith, kindness, and courage matter. And most of all — it's a place where you belong. I can't wait to walk beside you as your Principal — to see you shine, to watch you try, and to help you find your place here."

At interview, I was **the** first face of St Matthew's for our new students as they arrived for their intake interviews — the one to greet them, speak to them, and walk alongside them. Soon, I will become just **a** face — still an important one (just quietly!) — among the many they will get to know and trust.

While preparing for today, I came across a beautiful reflection on nature that I adapted slightly:

"As a tree's leaves turn green and blossoms appear, and as the air grows warmer, the seasons bring more than just a change in scenery. For our young people, these seasonal shifts are a powerful metaphor. Like a tree, whose leaves may change or fall, it remains rooted. Life will change — but you must stay grounded."

Only a few days ago, the rain poured — and then, suddenly, the sun broke through. Life can be like that. There will be storms. But the sun will come out again.

This next step, for these students and for all of us, is a new season. And today — the sun was shining. The future looks bright for the Stars of St Matthew's.

Policy Reviews – Term 4

A reminder to head to SchoolDocs to review our policies for this term. Your input matters and helps us keep our practices transparent and current.

Year 7 and 8, 2026 – Growing Our Junior School

We are pleased to share an exciting development in our junior school structure for 2026. We will introduce a second Year 8 class, providing more opportunities for families to join our school before Year 9 — without changing the roll cap or enrolment cap.

This change reflects strong interest in junior school entry and allows us to welcome more girls into our values-based environment earlier in their learning journey. It also supports a smoother social and academic transition into Year 9, while contributing to sustainable roll growth.

Whether your daughter is seeking a fresh start, a stronger sense of belonging, or a nurturing space to grow, our junior school offers an ideal foundation for her future.

Have a great and safe weekend...and always be your best selves

Ngā Mihi



Boarding Note

Kia Ora Koutou.

When the opportunity arises it is great to be able to take a small group of boarders out for a treat. On Tuesday these lucky few (Tilly, Ella, Sophie and our newest Year 7 boarder Melody) enjoyed their trip to 10CC with Nell one of our lovely tutors for a hot chocolate... a perfect treat on such a miserable day.

When the weather picked up on Wednesday, boarding staff rounded up the Year 7-9 boarders who had no afterschool commitments and headed to the park. Despite plenty of initial moans and groans, when the girls are outside they always enjoy it- particularly when you get the chance to get Mrs Fair on the swing!

With Labour weekend quickly approaching, a reminder both boarding houses will close at 5pm on Friday and will reopen at 6pm on Monday 27th October.

I hope our visitors enjoyed their time at St Matthew's today and we look forward to hosting our incoming boarders for a sleepover in November.

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.



Sports Board

St Matthew's Collegiate Weekly Sports Sheet Term 4 Week 3

Monday 20th October – Sunday 26th October

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Swimming Pool Open at Lunch</p> <p>Swim Group 3:30pm-4:30pm.</p> <p>Swim/Dive Pool for All 4:15pm-5pm.</p> <p>Volleyball Matches @Makoura College Gym. SMS Queens vs MC. 3:40pm (Court 1). SMS Superstars vs Chanel. 3:40pm (Court 2). Van leaves 3:15pm. Pick up 4:15pm.</p> <p>Primary Volleyball Training 1:20pm-2pm @SMS Gym.</p> <p>Tennis Lessons Kowhai 3.50-4.30pm. Regional 3 4.30pm-5.30pm. Lessons 3.20pm-3.50pm: Bella W, Georgia G, Lilah S, Maisie P, Zara J, Nina J</p> <p>Primary/Yr 9 Cricket Nets Session 3.30pm-6pm. Pop along anytime within this time.</p> <p>Fitness Gym 3.20pm-4.45pm Year 10-13s only.</p>	<p>Swimming Pool Open at Lunch</p> <p>Koraroahi 3:30pm-4:30pm @SMS Gym.</p> <p>Fun Fitness Games 3.45pm-4.30pm @Lazarus/Pool. Yr 7-10s. Bring active wear/togs.</p> <p>Fitness Gym 3.20pm-4.45pm. Year 10-13s only.</p> <p>Development Cricket 1:20pm-2pm @SMS.</p>	<p>Swimming Pool Open at Lunch</p> <p>JNR Dance Troupe Lunchtime @Lazarus.</p> <p>Primary Cricket 1:10pm-1:50pm @SMS.</p> <p>1st XI Cricket 3:45pm-5:15pm @Rathkeale HPC. Van departs 3.20pm.</p> <p>2nd XI Cricket 4:30pm-5:30pm @SMS.</p> <p>Touch Rugby Tujs Training 3.30pm-4.30pm @SMS.</p> <p>Fitness Gym 3.20pm-4.45pm. Year 10-13s only.</p>	<p>FULL SCHOOL STRIKE TBC SPORT DEPENDENT ON WHETHER STRIKE IS CONFIRMED</p> <p>Swimming Pool Open at Lunch</p> <p>Primary Touch Rugby Training 1:20pm-1:55pm @SMS.</p> <p>SNR Dance Troupe Afterschool @Lazarus.</p> <p>Koraroahi 3:30pm-4:30pm @SMS Gym.</p> <p>Tennis Lessons Kea & Kiwikiwi 3.15pm-4pm. Private Lessons 4.00pm-4.30pm Isabelle O & Ella B. Private Lessons 4.30pm-5pm Brennah, Lily B, Sasha & Abbey U.</p> <p>Fitness Gym 3.20pm-4.45pm. Year 10-13s only.</p> <p>Primary Touch Rugby Games @Red Star Yr 7s vs Whareama Kakariki. 6pm (Field 2). Van leaves 5:30pm. Pick up 6:30pm. Yr 8s vs Lakeview 8s. 6:30pm (Field 3). Van leaves 6pm. Pick up 7pm.</p> <p>Secondary Touch Rugby Games @Makoura College. SMS Tujs TBC SMS Robins TBC</p>	<p>Swimming Pool Open at Lunch</p> <p>Pickleball 1:20pm-1:50pm @SMS Gym. Anyone welcome.</p> <p>Interclub Tennis SMS Kowhai vs Marty Black. 3.30pm @SMS (courts 1, 3 & 4).</p> <p>SMS Kea vs Hadlow Djokovic. 3:30pm @Masterton Tennis Centre (courts 1-3).</p> <p>SMS Kiwikiwi vs Gladstone Gold. 3.30pm @Gladstone Tennis Club (courts 1-3).</p> <p>Fitness Gym – closed.</p>	

Blue highlight – Info tbc

Sports Results

2025 Week 1 Term 4 Sport Results



Yr 7s vs Tinui Whero: 10-0 to Tinui Whero

Yr 8s vs Hadlow Steppers: 7-4 to Hadlow Steppers

For your planning here are our 2026 dates:

- Athletics Sports Feb 20 at the Sportsbowl 8.45am-3pm (students to meet at St Matthews to get on buses at 8.10am)
- Athletics Sports Postponement Feb 23
- Swimming Sports March 6 at St Matthews pool 11am-3pm
- Swimming Sports Postponement March 9

Intercollegiate Athletics Feb 27

Intercollegiate Swimming TBC

Based on feedback and changes at regional and national level we are making some changes to our athletics and swimming sports next year:

- Athletics sports will be at the Sportbowl so that we have the use of an all-weather track, throwing cages etc
- Swimming sports will start at 11am (students will be in class periods 1 and 2) in the hope it is warmer
- Athletics age groups will move to primary, junior (under 15), intermediate (under 17), senior (under 20) to align with regional and national school events
- Swimming age groups will move to primary, 13 and under, 14, 15, 16 and 17 and over to align with regional and national school events
- Due to these new age groups, we will be retiring the current trophies to archives to preserve the history (if your family donated one the Sports department will be in contact) and restarting our school records based on these age groups.

Author / illustrator Giselle Clarkson visits Intermediate students.

Giselle Clarkson, an author / illustrator based in Wairarapa, visited the school on Monday and gave a presentation to the Year 7 & 8 students on her book writing and illustrating career. She also talked of her interest in conservation and the voluntary work she has done on the Subantarctic islands. The school Library holds a cook- book she illustrated in 2020 titled *Egg & Spoon* by Alexandra Tylee. We also have Giselle's latest book, *Omnibird*, which she both wrote and illustrated. This is a comprehensive text on observing bird life as well as providing information on all types of birds which is enhanced by her distinctive comical artistic style. Students had numerous questions to ask Giselle at the conclusion of her presentation.



Around School

Power of Languages Roadshow

This week Year 7 participated in the Power of Languages roadshow. This was run by the National Language Advisors for Spanish, Chinese and German who are taking their roadshow to intermediate schools around the country with the intention of fostering cultural awareness and a curiosity about learning languages. The students worked in groups on French, Spanish, German, Chinese and Japanese cultural activities. These included using Lego to recreate German landmarks, a quiz about French-speaking countries, identifying famous Spanish faces on Euro coins, deciphering old Chinese characters, putting together a puzzle of a Japanese picture and then playing bingo with items within the picture.



Year 10 Climbing Wall

Year 10 “NCEA mahi prep” rotation working on kotahitanga skills during bouldering and climbing with a belayer



Iron Awareness Week

We have a dietician Sarah Percy come and talk to our Year 13 and 10's during Kotahitanga on Thursday to discuss Iron needs and deficiency.

Following this we had a bbq with mini beef sliders for all students.



WORLD IRON AWARENESS WEEK

IRONWEEK.CO.NZ

More than one in three teenage girls don't eat enough iron.



ARE YOU LOW IN IRON?

One sign is feeling irritable, grumpy and struggling to concentrate. If you're concerned see your doctor.

WORLD IRON AWARENESS WEEK
IRONWEEK.CO.NZ



ARE YOU LOW IN IRON?

One sign is often getting sick and feeling cold. If you're concerned see your doctor.

WORLD IRON AWARENESS WEEK
IRONWEEK.CO.NZ



ARE YOU LOW IN IRON?

One sign is feeling tired, weak and out of breath easily. If you're concerned see your doctor.

WORLD IRON AWARENESS WEEK
IRONWEEK.CO.NZ



Karaitianatanga/Christianity Alive

The Value of Commitment – our focus value this week.

Commitment is more than keeping promises — it's choosing to stay faithful and steady, even when things are challenging. In our Anglican tradition, we see commitment as a reflection of God's own steadfast love for us. Scripture reminds us, "Let your yes be yes, and your no be no / Erangi ko tenei hei kupu ma koutou, Ae, ae; Kahore, kahore: no te mea ki te maha atu i ena, no te kino." (Matthew/Matiu 5:37), calling us to live with integrity and purpose.

As a school community, we celebrate those moments when students and staff show commitment — to learning, to one another and to living out their faith each day. When we stay the course with patience, hope and love, we grow not only in skill and knowledge, but also in character. May we continue to walk faithfully committed in all that we do, trusting that God is with us on the journey.

Rev. Wendy



LOVE FROM SEVENTEEN

FUNDRAISING Program

USE THE DISCOUNT CODE **STMATTHEW**

for 5% off* your order at www.lovefromseventeen.nz

15%

of all sales using the discount code will be donated to support

ST MATTHEW'S COLLEGIATE SCHOOL TRIP TO WAITANGI 2026

Enter the discount code above at checkout.
Code is valid from 15/10/2025 to 30/11/2025.

*Excludes shipping cost, any discounted products, is not valid for use with any other offers or discount codes.

YOUR EDUCATION

High School Exchanges

UPCOMING ONLINE INFORMATION MEETING

LAST ONLINE INFORMATION MEETING FOR THE YEAR: **TUESDAY 21st OCTOBER AT 6PM**

REGISTER AT WWW.YOUREDCATION.CO.NZ

High School Exchanges!

If you want to know more about overseas High School Exchanges from Your Education, register your interest for our next online Information session on Tuesday, 21st October at 6.00pm. All interested parents and students Y9–Y13 welcome. An experienced staff member and returnee will share information about the destinations we are offering in 2026 and 2027. RSVP on our website :

www.yourededucation.co.nz/next-steps. Follow us on Instagram @yourededucationexchanges for regular updates and stories from us.

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.

Stay 'Connected' With our School App!

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

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/adGVwP9CMqPqpdvg7>



Matavai Pacific education e-newsletter

Matavai is our monthly e-newsletter featuring the latest Pacific education updates, stories and upcoming events. Share this with Pacific parents, carers and communities through your early learning centre.

[Matavai Issue 7 – Mailchimp](#)
[Subscribe to Matavai – Mailchimp](#)

For feedback or story ideas, email matavai.newsletter@education.govt.nz.



Key Dates

- 7 –14 October - Senior College Derived Grade Exams
- Friday 17 October - Orientation Day
- Saturday 25 October - Exeat Weekend
- Monday 27 October - Labour Day
- Thursday 30 October - Last day for Seniors
- Thursday 30 October - Senior College Prizegiving
- Tuesday 4 November—NZQA Starts

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



Kia Manawaroa education pānui

Kia Manawaroa is our dedicated newsletter for whānau Māori, sharing opportunities, updates and information about education, and issue 8 is out now. Share this free pānui with your communities.

[Kia Manawaroa Issue 9 – Mailchimp](#)
[Subscribe to Kia Manawaroa – Mailchimp](#)

For feedback or story ideas, email kia.manawaroa@education.govt.nz.

Policies Under Review—Term Four

The following policies are currently under review. Please visit Schooldocs. User: stmatts Password:

Term 4 policies	Review opens 6 October
• Bullying and Harassment	Board review
• Behaviour Management	Board review
• Searches, Surrender, and Retention of Property	
• Minimising Physical Restraint	Board review
• Stand-down, Suspension, and Exclusion	
• Staff Wellbeing and Safety	



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!



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.

*"Mā tui, mā mano, ka rapa te whai.
Many hands make light work"*

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, 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.

Ties and 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:

Old Style Hoodies / Togs / Hockey & Football Socks / Shoes & Sandals / Black Ankle Socks / Old Style PE Tops & Shorts

MEDICAL INFORMATION

- Does your daughter carry and Epi Pen?
- Does your daughter carry/require medication?
- Does your daughters medical information need updating?



Please get in touch if you think you may need to advise of any new medical details we hold on file to ensure we have the most up to date information



Community News and Events

GERALDINE INDER SCHOOL OF DANCE & DRAMA PRESENTS

Cinderella



WAIRARAPA EVENTS CENTRE
SATURDAY 25TH 4PM, SUNDAY 26TH 4PM,
TUESDAY 28TH OCTOBER 6PM 2025

BOOK NOW AT
WWW.CARTERTONEC.CO.NZ



MUSICAL THEATRE

PERFORMANCE BY WAIRARAPA KIDS' CHOIR

FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2025 6.45PM ST MATTHEW'S
SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2025 2PM COLLEGIATE HALL

COME AND ENJOY OUR AMAZING LOCAL WAIRARAPA TALENT



TICKET PRICES:

Adult: \$10

Child: \$5

Family: (2 Adult, 3 Kids) \$30

PURCHASE NOW:

www.myetickets.co.nz

Search for: Oliver with a Twist

LIMITED DOOR SALES - CASH ONLY

Defensive Driving Course with Lee Quayle

*My next course will be on 1, 3, 8 and 10
December 2025. Course Cost \$279*

Go to the website defensivedriving.aa.co.nz

Select Masterton

Then select Quayle's Driving
Instruction

Then complete the form.

Once I have the form, I can send you course
details and an
invoice.

Or you can text or ph
me on [021 154 7346](tel:0211547346)

Thank you



Wairarapa Community Orchestra
Presents

Summer and Celebration

With
Musical Director
Ruth Eckford

Friday 7 November 2025
Kuranui College, Greytown 7.00 p.m.

Saturday 8 November 2025
St Matthew's Anglican Church, Masterton
2.30 p.m.

Tickets
Adults \$ 20.00
Students and Children free

Door Sales Available



WAIRARAPA
COMMUNITY
ORCHESTRA