

## Principal's Message

TERM THREE, WEEK THREE



Kia ora whānau,

In 2008 my son (who could absolutely do no wrong) had his iPod Nano confiscated at school. Outraged, I immediately began preparing my case. Surely there had been some terrible misunderstanding. Had the school not realised whose child they were dealing with?

Then I remembered the school rule: No iPod Nanos at school.

He knew the rule. I knew the rule.

Suddenly my compelling legal argument collapsed.

So I did the only thing a parent can do in that situation. I let him experience the consequence of his choice. He survived. More importantly, the iPod Nano never returned to school.

Don't you love it when consequences actually work?

When we introduced Bell to Bell, we hoped students might spend less time glued to their phones and a little more time connected to the people around them. To be fair, it has made a huge difference.

What we didn't anticipate was The Great Email Migration of 2026.

It appears that some students, deprived of instant access to their phones, have discovered that school email also reaches home. (Note to self- when introducing a new procedure consider the VPN (Very Predictable Next -Step) that students will inevitably discover.

Remarkably, we are now receiving reports of real-time communication about friendship disputes, lunchtime dramas, forgotten PE gear, classroom frustrations, and situations that, in previous generations, generally disappeared by 3.15pm.

As parents ourselves, we understand the urge to jump in when our child is upset. The challenge is that many of the problems that feel enormous at 10.20am have been sorted by interval, forgotten by lunch, and replaced by an entirely different emergency by 2.00pm.

Sometimes our young people need a little time and space to work things through themselves before we adults rush in with our capes on.

So can we ask for your help?

If you receive an email during the school day announcing a social catastrophe of epic proportions, take a breath.

There is a reasonable chance the crisis will have been resolved before the final bell rings.

Of course, genuine wellbeing concerns, safety issues, and significant matters are different and will always deserve attention. But for the everyday ups and downs of school life, sometimes the best thing we can do is give students a little space to sort things out before the cavalry arrives.

Many of us survived our entire schooling careers without providing our parents with a minute-by-minute commentary from the battlefield.

And if all else fails, perhaps an Out of Office reply that only your child receives might do the trick...

*"Thank you for your email. Your concern has been received and will be reviewed after school, once the crisis has either escalated dramatically or completely disappeared."*

But if there is a crisis call the office.

Thank you for your support.

Ngā mihi,



# Boarding

This week we celebrated New Zealand Boarding Schools Week, a time to recognise and embrace all that boarding has to offer.

On Sunday, our weekend boarders enjoyed a sunny outing to the park with Mrs Priestley. The girls had a wonderful time riding the miniature train and finishing off the afternoon with an ice cream.

On Wednesday after school, our Year 7 and 8 boarders visited Hampton House to prepare for the school's Cancer Society fundraiser. As boarders can find it difficult to contribute baked goods from home, Mrs Begg supervised the girls as they made delicious chocolate crackles to sell on Thursday. Funds raised will be donated to the Cancer Society.

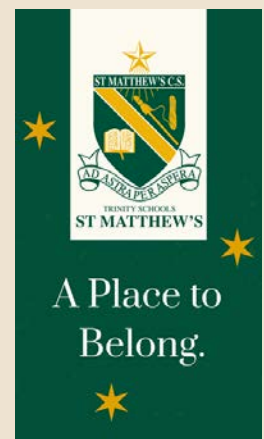
Thursday evening saw the return of our much-anticipated Teddy Dinner. The girls were encouraged to bring along their favourite soft toy, and there was an impressive collection on display, including teddies, bunnies, frogs and even a pineapple! A special thank you to Isla Dick, Matilda Wallace and Bella Wallace, who came up with the idea and helped decorate the dining room. It was wonderful to see such initiative and enthusiasm from our Year 7 and 8 boarders.

As part of our Matariki celebrations, Mrs Chapman had planned to set up her telescope so the girls could enjoy an evening of stargazing. Unfortunately, the changeable weather meant this had to be postponed. We look forward to rescheduling this experience at a later date.

To round off New Zealand Boarding Schools Week, the girls are heading to the movies on Thursday evening to enjoy a screening of Toy Story. We are looking forward to a fun night out together and a wonderful way to celebrate the friendships and sense of community that make boarding so special.

A reminder that this weekend is an Exeat Weekend. Boarding houses will reopen from 6.00pm on Sunday evening. Please note that no evening meal will be provided on arrival, so students should have dinner before returning.

We wish everyone a safe, warm and enjoyable weekend.



# Sport Schedule

Sport Schedule

Week 4 - Term 3  
Monday August 10th - Sunday August 16th

|                         | Monday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Tuesday                                                                                                              | Wednesday                                                                                                 | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Friday                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Saturday                                                                                                   | Sunday |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Before School / All Day | Junior Dance Troupe, 1.10-1.55pm @ Lazarus                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Hockey Primary Sticks Training, 1.15-1.50pm                                                                          | Netball Jnr Black Training, 1.15-1.50pm @ SMS Courts<br>Netball Green Training, 1-1.40pm @ SMS Gym        | Hockey Primary Stars Training, 1.15-1.50pm<br>Football Primary Ferns Training, 1.15pm-1.50pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Hockey Green Training Lunchtime at Rathkeale                                                                                                                                                                                | Netball Games @ Colombo Road Courts<br>SMS Development vs C<br>SMS Gold vs<br>SMS Yellow vs                |        |
|                         | Football Training @ SMS Field<br>1st XI vs Madlow 1st XI Friendly 3.45pm<br>Saints 3.30-4.30pm<br>Steel 3.30-4.30pm<br>Stars 3.30-4.30pm                                                                                                                            | Football @ SMS Field (Semi Finals)<br>SMS Steel vs<br>SMS Strikers vs<br>SMS Saints vs<br>SMS Stars vs<br>SMS 1XI vs |                                                                                                           | Primary Football Ferns Game (Semi Finals)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Netball Games @ Colombo Road Courts<br>SMS Green vs                                                                                                                                                                         | SMS Snr A vs<br>SMS 13's vs<br>SMS Pink vs<br>SMS Silver vs<br>SMS Black vs<br>SMS 12's vs<br>SMS White vs |        |
| After School            | Netball Primary Kiwika Training, 3.45-4.45pm @ SMS Outside Courts<br>Netball Primary Kowhai Training, 3.30-4.30 @ SMS Outside Courts                                                                                                                                | Rifle Shooting @ Masterton Miniature rifle club<br>Van departs 6.20, Pick up 8.30                                    | Netball Snr Yellow Training, 3.30-4.30pm @ SMS Gym<br>Netball Development Training, 5.30-7.00pm @ SMS Gym | Squash @ Red Star Squash Courts, 3.30-4.45pm<br>Van departs 3.15pm, pick up 4.50pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Primary Hockey Games @ Clareville Turf<br>St Matt's Stars vs Gladly Gold 4pm Field 3 Northern Turf Van leaves 3.15pm, pick up 5pm<br>St Matt's Sticks vs MIS Pango 4pm Field 2 Southern Turf Van leaves 3.15pm, pick up 5pm |                                                                                                            |        |
|                         | Hockey Games @ Clareville Turf SMS FINALS<br>SMS 2nd XI vs Solway 1st XI 5.30pm Southern turf<br>Van departs 4.45pm, pick up 6.30pm<br>SMS Gold vs Solway 2nd XI 4pm Southern Turf<br>Van departs 3.15pm, pick up 5pm<br>Hockey 1st XI Training 4.30-6pm @ SMS Turf | Primary Netball Games @ Masterton Netball Courts<br>SMS Kowhai vs<br>SMS Kiwika vs<br>SMS Kakariki vs                | Hockey 2nd XI Training 5-6pm @ Clareville Turf<br>Van departs 4.40pm, pick up 6pm                         | Netball Primary Kakariki Training 3.45-4.45pm @ SMS Outside Courts<br>Netball Jnr White Training 3.30-4.30pm @ SMS Outside Courts<br>Netball Jnr Silver Training 3.30-4.30pm @ SMS Outside Courts<br>Netball Jnr Pink training 3.30-4.30pm @ SMS Gym<br>Netball Jnr Gold training 3.30-5pm @ SMS Gym<br>Netball Snr A Training 5.30-7pm @ SMS Gym |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                            |        |
|                         | Badminton @ SMS Gym 3.30-4.30pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Hockey 1st XI Training 5-6.30pm<br>Van departs 4.30pm, pick up 6.40pm                                                |                                                                                                           | Hockey 1st XI Finals TBC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                            |        |

## St Matthew's Collegiate Sport Results

Week 2 Term 3



|                 | Opponent       | Score    |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|
| <b>Hockey</b>   |                |          |
| Primary Sticks  | BYE            | N/A      |
| Primary Stars   | Opaki          | loss 4-2 |
| St Matts 2nd XI | Kuranui 1stXI  | win 5-1  |
| St Matts Green  | BYE            | N/A      |
| St matts 1st XI | Waicol         | win 3-1  |
| St Matts Gold   | Chanel/Makoura | draw 1-1 |

|                       |      |      |
|-----------------------|------|------|
| <b>Rifle shooting</b> |      |      |
| Lily Boggs            | 87.1 | 92.2 |
| Elise Dry             | 68   |      |
| Sophie Forbes         | 82.2 |      |
| Audrey Hall           | 98.6 | 92.1 |
| Michelle Kooiman      | 70   |      |
| Eva MacManus          | 89.1 | 75.1 |
| Tenley Richardson     | 78.1 |      |
| Maya Rosenbach        | 74   | 83   |
| Katya Shi             | 81   | 81.1 |
| Katherine Squires     | 85.1 | 88   |

Live Integrated Activity sheet - available on our website:  
<https://www.stmatts.school.nz/parents/newsletters/>

|                 |                    |          |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------|
| <b>Football</b> |                    |          |
| Primary Ferns   | MIS Kahurangi      | loss 7-0 |
| Saints          | Solway             | loss 2-5 |
| Steel           | BYE                | N/A      |
| Stars           | Waicol Development | loss 1-0 |
| Strikers        | Makoura            | WBD      |
| 1st XI          | Chanel             | win 6-0  |

|                  |                          |            |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| <b>Netball</b>   |                          |            |
| Primary Kowhai   | MIS Manawa               | win 22-12  |
| Primary Kiwika   | Starburst                | loss 9-14  |
| Primary Kakariki | BYE                      | N/A        |
| Jnr Gold vs      | Kuranui College Junior A | win 30-8   |
| Jnr Silver vs    | Solway College Navy      | loss 14-16 |
| Jnr Pink vs      | Chanel pulse             | win 17-4   |
| Jnr White vs     | Solway College White     | loss 13-19 |
| Jnr Black vs     | BYE                      | N/A        |
| Snr Green vs     | Chanel Swifts            | WBD        |
| Snr Yellow vs    | Makoura Junior B         | WBD        |
| Stars vs         | Chanel Development       | WBD        |
| 13s vs           | Makoura Junior A         | loss 17-18 |
| 12s vs           | Waicol Junior Gold       | loss 6-20  |
| Development vs   | Waicol Masters           | loss 12-26 |
| Snr A vs         | Chanel Snr A             | WBD        |
| Snr A vs         | Opaki Vixens             | win 49-37  |



Swimmers: (L-R) Maddy Lock (Y11), Lexi Standen (Y9), Olivia de Zwart (Y9) and Alex Bradshaw (Y11).

Last weekend four swimmers from St Matthews travelled to Auckland for the 2026 NZ Secondary Schools Swimming Championships. It is a massive four day event, with around 800 students from more than 180 schools.

Our swimmers train four to five nights a week all year round – whether its sunny or frosty. Events like this are a great opportunity to swim against the best in the country, learn from others, and have some fun. Across their 13 individual races the team stepped up to the occasion and swam 10 PB times.

### Fixture Report – St George's School vs St Matthew's Collegiate

Not the best weather of the month for today's fixture between St George's School from Whanganui and our St Matthew's Collegiate. Both netball and football were scheduled, with netball originally planned to be played outdoors. Due to the wet and cold conditions, both netball games were moved indoors.

Unfortunately, the girls' football teams still had to play outside and endured cold, windy conditions throughout their match. Fortunately, they finished just five minutes before the heavy rain arrived.

#### Results

Netball A – SMS Kowhai was beaten by St George A, 24–19.

Netball B – St George defeated SMS Kiwikipi, 13–4.

Football – Our SMS girls performed strongly, beating St George 10–4.

Despite the imperfect weather, all players enjoyed the fixture and took the opportunity to socialise afterwards



## Karaitianatanga Ora / Christianity Alive

This week in Senior Chapel we heard the story of Jesus walking on water where Jesus demonstrated the concept of walking by faith | te hīkoi i runga i te whakapono. Life is full of moments when the waves seem a little higher than we expected. New challenges, unexpected changes, or worries can leave us feeling as though we are being tossed about on the water. Yet, in the midst of the storm, Jesus comes to His disciples with words of hope:

"Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."  
(Matthew 14:27)

"Kia maia! Ko ahau tēnei. Kāua e matakū." (Matiu 14:27)

Peter's courage was not found in the calmness of the sea but in keeping his eyes on Christ. When he became overwhelmed by the wind and the waves, Jesus reached out His hand and held him fast. What a beautiful reminder that our faith is not about never being afraid—it is about trusting that God is with us, even when life feels uncertain.

We pray that each member of our community will continue to grow in courage, kindness, resilience, and hope, trusting in the One who says, "Take courage... Don't be afraid." May we all keep our eyes fixed on Christ, extending His love, grace, and peace to one another as we journey together as one whānau.

He manaaki tō te Atua. God is with us, in every season and every storm.



## Year 9 Maths

Year 9 exploring external angles in polygons with Dr Saunders in Maths



## SUBJECT INFORMATION EVENING

for 2027 Subject Selection

Venue: Rathkeale College Dining Hall

Date and time: Friday 21 August, 3.30pm to 5.30pm

All Year 11 and 12 students, and their parents, are encouraged to attend this event.

The purpose of the evening is to provide information about the subjects which will be offered at Rathkeale and Senior College in 2027.

Subject displays will be set up, and Heads of Faculty and Subjects will be present to answer questions. Careers information will also be on display.

Members of the Senior Leadership Team and the Careers Advisor will be available to answer any questions too.



## Year 7 & 8 Cancer Society Bake Sale Success

Our first Cancer Society bake sale was a fantastic success today, with our Year 7 and 8 students hosting an incredible array of delicious treats. The effort, creativity, and generosity on display were outstanding!

A huge thank you to our students and families for their support. The standard has certainly been set for the bake sales to come. ❤️



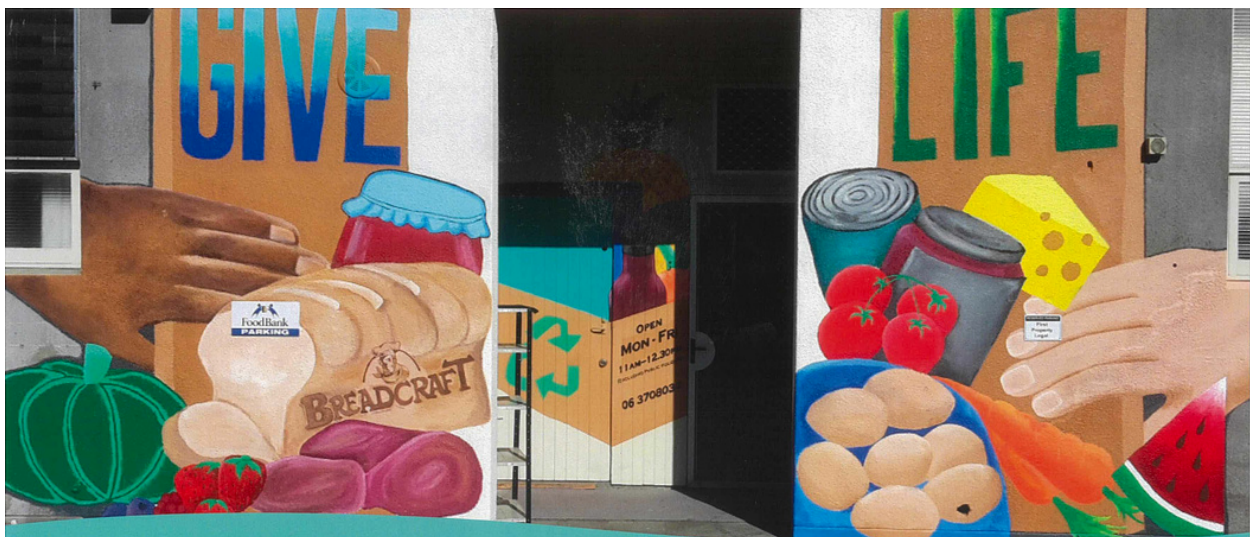
## Speed Limits Nears School – click [here](#) for full story



### Wairarapa Road Safety Council

Let's be blunt: most drivers do the right thing, most of the time. But it only takes one driver, on one morning, not slowing down for a school bus or a school zone to put a...

 [wairsc.org.nz](http://wairsc.org.nz)



**MASTERTON SCHOOLS  
NON-UNIFORM DAY  
MASTERTON FOOD BANK**

***Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August***

***Instead of a gold  
coin donation,  
please bring at least  
1 non-perishable  
food item.***



# 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 23 October 2026, with the recipient announced at Prizegiving in December.

For more information and to apply,  
<https://forms.gle/owWyycFXJZdhqS74A>



## Friends of St Matthew's (FoSM) Treasurer Needed

The Friends of St Matthew's (FoSM) is a fundraising committee that contributes invaluable assets to the school community both now and for future generations to enjoy. Being a member of 'The Friends' is a fun way to get involved in the school environment, meet new people and gain a sense of Community. We now are now in need of a Treasurer to join our Team.

If you are interested in this role and would like more information please contact Rachel Garrity, [rachel.garrity@hotmail.com](mailto:rachel.garrity@hotmail.com) or 021472249.

The role is not overly time intensive, we meet approximately twice each term and involves:

- Recording all income and expenditure for the FoSM account
- Reporting on the current financial position at each committee meeting and this should be recorded in the Minutes.
- Paying monies in and out of the account, recording and receipting transactions
- Making and advising the Bank of changes
- Providing cash floats when needed for fundraising initiatives
- Maintaining appropriate financial records in accordance with the Charity Commission
- Preparing and submitting annual accounts

## Key Dates:

Saturday 8 – Sunday 9 August – Exeat Weekend  
Monday 10 August – School Library Week/Maths Week  
Wednesday 12 August – Philippa Werry Author Visit, Yr 13 Ag Trip, Primary Rippa Rugby  
Thursday 13 August – Yr9 Daffodil Bake Sale  
Friday 14 August – Masterton Foodbank Appeal  
Sunday 16 August/Monday 17 August – Senior Pent  
Tuesday 18 August – Yr10 Spanish Trip  
Wednesday 19 August – BOT Student Election  
Nominations Open, Wairarapa Careers Expo

## 2026 Term Dates

Term One – Monday 2nd February to Thursday 2nd April

Term Two – Monday 20th April to Friday 3rd July

Term Three – Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September

Term Four – Monday 12th October to Saturday 5 December



# PŪKAHA

NATIONAL WILDLIFE CENTRE



Looking for a meaningful way to spend time as a family?

Join us at Pūkaha and help care for our beautiful native wildlife and forest. Come and make a difference together! 🌿🦆

Volunteering is a fantastic opportunity for our young people and adults to connect with nature, learn new skills, and give back to one of Aotearoa's special conservation spaces. Whether you're planting, helping with maintenance, or supporting visitor experiences, every helping hand makes a real impact.

Bring the kids, enjoy the fresh air, and create memories while making a positive difference for future generations. It's such a special place that it will keep you coming back over lifetimes and generations!

♥ Families of all ages are welcome. Contact Christine by emailing [volunteer@pukaha.org.nz](mailto:volunteer@pukaha.org.nz) or call the Centre on 06 3708004

Get involved and be part of something special. Together, we can help Pūkaha thrive.

# SUPPORTING THE SALVATION ARMY

TOGETHER WE CAN HELP  
THOSE IN POVERTY



## WEEK 5

PLEASE BRING IN ITEMS  
IF YOU HAVE THEM AT HOME.

### WE ARE COLLECTING:



OLD  
CLOTHING



STATIONERY



BOOKS



SHOES



BAGS



CARE  
PRODUCTS  
(SHAMPOO  
& SOAPS)

### RATHKEALE STUDENTS

PLEASE BRING YOUR  
DONATIONS TO THE

## RATHKEALE CHAPEL



### ST MATTHEW'S STUDENTS

PLEASE BRING YOUR  
DONATIONS TO THE

## SCHOOL OFFICE



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

# DAFFODIL DAY MOTOR SHOW

CARS - BIKES - TRACTORS - STATIC ENGINES - TRUCKS  
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

All proceeds go to Wairarapa

Proudly sponsored by  
**FaganMotors.nz**



AWESOME  
PRIZES  
TO BE WON

FOOD &  
COFFEE  
CARTS

# 23 AUGUST 2026

MASTERTON  
MOTORPLEX

EVENT DETAILS  
PUBLIC GATES  
OPEN 10AM

General  
Admission  
**KOHA**

NO DOGS | NO ALCOHOL

REGISTER HERE

CARS  
**\$10**

EARLYBIRD  
BEFORE 19 AUG

[WWW.WAIVCC.NZ](http://WWW.WAIVCC.NZ)

NON-EARLYBIRD \$15



# TYREHAUS

## FREE KIDS COLOURING COMPETITION!

PICK UP YOUR  
FREE COLOURING  
SHEET HERE!



TAKE IT HOME, COLOUR IT  
IN, THEN BRING YOUR  
FINISHED MASTERPIECE TO  
THE TYREHAUS STAND AT  
THE DAFFODIL DAY MOTOR  
SHOW TO BE IN TO WIN ONE  
OF FOUR LEGO® PRIZE  
PACKS!



SUNDAY  
23 AUGUST  
2026



ENTRIES CLOSE  
**12:45PM**



MASTERTON  
MOTORPLEX



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



FUN FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY!

**TYREHAUS**

MOBILE TYRE SERVICE

Colouring competition also available  
from the school office



Safe, structured volunteering placements for young people across the world. Build real skills, genuine confidence, and experience that actually matters.

### Free online info session

Tuesday 18 August, 6pm AEST / 8pm NZST. Explore volunteering placements in Spain, Canada and the UK. Free to join.



8 countries, 30+ placements



Matched to the right placement for you



Real responsibility, real impact



Supported every step of the way

UK charity number: 1202056

## Ready for a new adventure? Study abroad with AFS!



Swap NZ life for an incredible experience in one of our 50+ partner countries. Discover more about yourself, make lifelong friends, immerse yourself in another culture - and return home a Global Citizen.

**4 weeks - 11 months | Volunteer Host Family | Local School Scholarships & Grants available!**

**Bring your whānau along and find out more about our programmes and all the places you could go!**

**Thursday 13 August 2026 @ 5:30PM**  
**Khandallah Presbyterian Church, 33 Ganges Road**



afs.org.nz | Leading student exchange since 1947



School libraries are essential to ensure that the building blocks of structured literacy are strengthened by developing the joy of reading, increasing reading comprehension, empathy, and the capacity to learn.

**"EVERY child deserves the benefits of a school library programme"**

IFLA-UNESCO School Library Manifesto 2025



### Essential Learning Infrastructure

School libraries are not optional extras, they are critical infrastructure required for equitable student achievement and Māori and Pasifika learner success.

**Every student in Aotearoa deserves access to a well-resourced school library and specialised librarian, to ensure that they have equitable access to resources needed to achieve their reading and learning potential.**



**From 'Learning to Read' to 'Reading to Learn'**

School librarians cultivate a culture of reading for pleasure, essential for students to consolidate the fundamentals of literacy.



**Sanctuary for Well-Being**

School libraries provide safe and inclusive spaces that are vital for supporting student mental health.



**Future-Ready Learners**

School librarians are research specialists who teach students critical thinking, how to navigate AI, find information, and evaluate sources.

## The Power of School Libraries

## UPCOMING ONLINE INFORMATION MEETINGS

**YOUR EDUCATION**  
*High School Exchanges*



WED  
**6 AUG**  
AT 6PM

TUE  
**25 AUG**  
AT 6PM

REGISTER HERE:



## Stay 'Connected' With our School App!

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

