SMCS STAR BOARD



Principal's Message

TERM FOUR, WEEK SIX

Kia Ora Koutou.

When I was teaching at Scots College, our Headmaster, Ian Mackinnon, was a great believer in keeping students busy. "Keep them off the streets," was one of his favourite catchphrases.

That phrase brings all sorts of ideas to mind. Idle hands create mischief and all that. But I think what he was really saying was, "Don't just keep people out of trouble. Give them something worthwhile to get into."

As we move towards the end of the year, I've been reflecting on another truth. It is not always idle hands that create problems. Sometimes it is idle lips.

At assembly this week, I spoke with students about gossip. Proverbs has plenty to say on the topic, reminding us that gossip damages trust, harms relationships and often separates good friends. I also shared the old story of the feather pillow. Once the feathers are released into the wind, they can never be completely gathered up again. Words can be much the same.

Before we speak about someone else, it is worth asking three simple questions: Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it kind?

Yet I don't want this message to stop there.

The end of the year should not simply be about avoiding the wrong things. It should be about embracing the right things.

Over the coming weeks there will be activities, celebrations, sports events, prizegivings, chapel services, farewells, shared meals, performances and countless conversations. These are the moments that create memories and strengthen community. They are the stories worth telling.

This week's production of The Little Mermaid was a wonderful example. Hundreds of hours of rehearsals, backstage preparation, music, costumes, technical support and teamwork all came together to create something special. After the show the school was buzzing with conversations about favourite scenes, standout performances, funny moments and the remarkable efforts of students and staff behind the scenes. Those conversations mattered because they celebrated achievement, recognised effort and gave people something positive to share. They are exactly the kinds of stories that strengthen a community.

So perhaps the challenge for all of us is not just to avoid gossip, but to fill our conversations with better things. Celebrate someone's success. Thank a teacher, colleague or friend. Encourage someone who is having a difficult week. Talk about an achievement, a funny moment, a shared experience or an exciting opportunity ahead.

As a school community, we are at our best when our words build people up rather than pull them down.

Let's make the most of these final weeks of 2026 by enjoying one another's company, taking part wholeheartedly in all that school life offers, and ensuring that what we leave behind are good memories rather than loose feathers.

Kia pai tō koutou rā

Have a great and safe weekend, and be your best selves

Ngā mihi

Boarding

Kia Ora Koutou.
Boarding is all about creating a sense of community and I think these photos demonstrate that here at St Matthew's...
Photo 1: Year 7&8 boarders and daygirls enjoying an ice cream outside the boarding house before the Wednesday night performance of Little Mermaid.
Photo 2: Grace Jaspers (Year 11) and cricket teammate and fellow boarder Lucy Gilbert (Year 9) enjoying some down time in boarding.
Photo 3: Chris our very talented St Matthew's Property Manager and the Christmas tree he whipped up for boarding.

A strong sense of community relies on everyone getting onboard and opting in. We need parents and caregivers to get behind all that we do at school and in boarding so please ensure your daughter gets to all end of year activities and events.





Note the Boarders' Christmas Dinner is on Thursday 3rd of December and all boarders are expected to attend.

Please note the following options for end of year sign out from boarding-
Option 1: Your daughter can be signed out AFTER the Boarder's Christmas Dinner on Thursday. She would then attend school on Friday and Saturday.
Option 2: Sign your daughter out before or after the Carol Service on Friday night.
Option 3: Girls can be signed out before 11.30am on Saturday morning. Prizegiving on Saturday at the Rathkeale College Auditorium at 1.00pm. Once prizegiving is over, the boarding house will be open until 4.00pm.



Congratulations to our fabulous Year 7&8 department on their outstanding performances of the Little Mermaid. We loved it.
Enjoy the weekend everyone and thanks for helping to create a fabulous sense of community!
Ngā mihi.
Jo

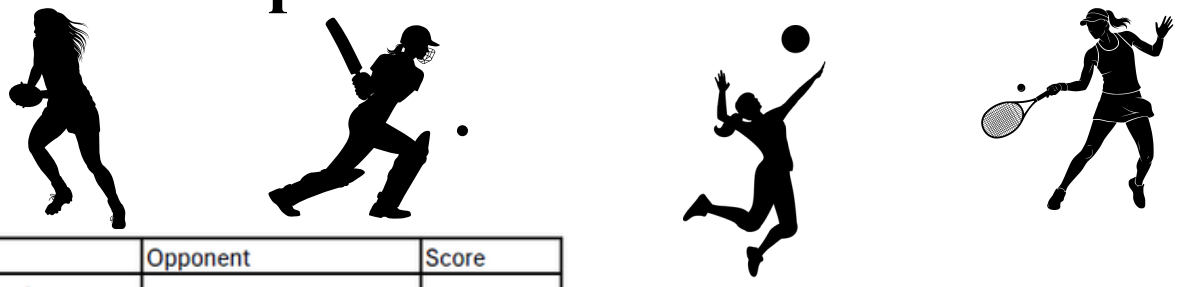
Sport Sheet

Sport Schedule

Week 7 Term 4
Monday Nov 23rd - Sunday Nov 29th

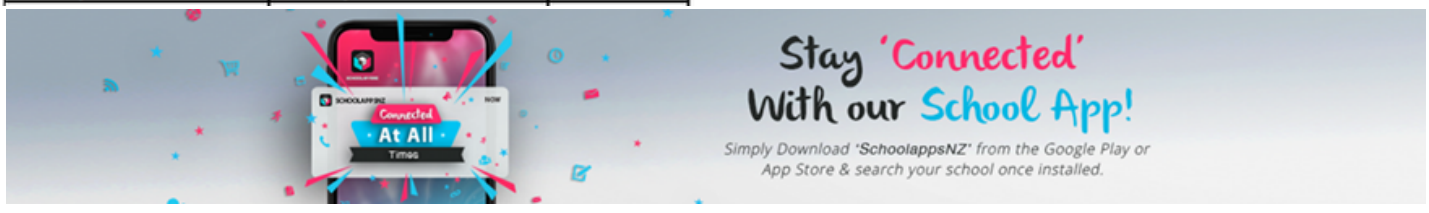
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Before School / All Day		Primary Athletics					
During School	Pool Open Lunchtime	Pool Open Lunchtime	Pool Open Lunctime	Pool Open Lunctime			
After School	3.30pm - 4:30pm Tennis Training- Acers, Hitters, Starlings with Coach Marco 4:30-5:30pm Tennis Training- Regional 3 Diamonds & Rubies with Coach Marco	Cricket 1st XI Training 3.30-5pm @ SMS Bottom Field GAME: 2ndXI vs MIS Girls 3.45pm @ MIS Van depart 3.15pm, Collect 6pm	Touch Rugby Training Hurricanes Training 3.30-4.30pm @ SMS Field	Tennis lessons @ SMS with Coach Marco Yr 7: 3.20-3.50pm Yr 8: 3.50-4.20pm Yr 9: 4.20pm-4.50pm Yr 10/11: 4.50-5.20pm Regional 3 Tennis Games SMS Rubies vs Opaki Red 6pm @ SMS SMS Diamonds vs WaiCol Yellow 6pm @ SMS	Tennis Games Junior Interclub SMS Starlings vs Marty Aces 3.30pm @ Martinborough Tennis Club SMS Hitters vs Greytown team 3 3.30pm @ SMS SMS Acers NO MORE GAMES Regional 2 Games Trinity Schools White vs Carterton Cavaliers 6pm @ Carterton Courts Trinity Schools Gold vs NO MORE GAMES Trinity Schools Green NO MORE GAMES		
	Cricket Training Primary Gold & Green 3.30-4.30pm		Cricket GAME: 1st XI vs Wairarapa College Junior Boys 3.45pm @ WaiCol GAME: Primary Gold vs Lakeview Girls Blue 3.45pm @ SMS	Touch Rugby Games @ Makoura College SMS Broncos vs SMS Panthers vs 4.35pm Field 2 Van departs 3.55pm, pick up 5.15pm Hurricanes vs			
	Volleyball @ Makoura College SMS Green vs WaiCol Red 4pm Court 1 Van departs 3:35pm, pick up 4.25pm SMS Gold vs Lakeview 4.35pm Court 1 Van departs 4pm, pick up 5pm	Pool Open 3.30-4.30pm					
	3.30-4.15pm Swim Club CANCELED DUE TO EXAMS			Cricket Training @ SMS with Coach Chopper 2nd XI Cricket Training 3.30-4.30pm Pool Open 3.30-4.30pm			

Sport Results T4 Week 5



	Opponent	Score
Touch Rugby		
Primary Cowgirls	SMS Warriors	
Primary Raiders	BYE	N/A
Primary Warriors	SMS Cowgirls	
Hurricanes	BYE	N/A
Panthers	SMS Broncos	
Broncos	SMS Panthers	
Cricket		
1XI	Kuranui College Maroon	won by 5 wickets
2XI	BYE	N/A
Primary Gold	Primary Green	Weather interferance
Primary Green	Primary Gold	Weather interferance

Tennis		
SMS Diamonds	Opaki Red	
SMS Rubies	BYE	N/A
SMS Hitters	BYE	N/A
SMS Starlings	Hadlow Djokovoc	
SMS Aces	No More Games	N/A
Trinity Schools White	Carterton Cavaliers	
Trinity Schools Green	BYE	N/A
Trinity Schools Gold	Matinborough	
Volleyball		
SMS Green	Solway Silver	
SMS Gold	WaiCol Yellow	



Around School

Celebrating 40 Years of Our School Chapel

Monday afternoon , St Matthew's Collegiate School gathered to commemorate the 40th anniversary of our School Chapel.
The service provided an opportunity to reflect on our history, celebrate our special character, and give thanks for the generations of students, staff, families, and supporters who have worshipped, reflected, and found connection within its walls.
A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the occasion so meaningful. We extend our sincere thanks to Erik Pedersen for sharing a thoughtful reflection, and to our special guests for joining us as we marked this significant milestone in the life of our school.

























Lower North Island Year 9/10 Cricket Championships





Day One:
Our Year 9/10 cricketers enjoyed a strong start at the Lower North Island Cricket Championships, securing two convincing wins on the opening day.
In their first match against Newlands College, the team produced an outstanding bowling performance, dismissing their opponents for just 21 runs while taking nine wickets. A highlight of the match was an incredible one-handed catch from Liv Orsborn, taken behind her head. St Matthew's then comfortably chased down the target without losing a wicket, ensuring all players had valuable time at the crease.
The second match saw St Matthew's face Wairarapa College. After an early wicket, Liv Orsborn and Annabelle Wyeth steadied the innings with a superb 106-run partnership, both reaching retired fifties. The team went on to post an impressive 177/2. Rain interrupted Wairarapa College's reply, but not before St Matthew's bowlers had them struggling at 6/6, resulting in a St Matthew's victory under the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern method.
The team now looks ahead to a winner-takes-all match against Scots College. It has been particularly pleasing to see contributions across the squad, with First XI players leading the way and several Second XI players making valuable impacts with both bat and ball.

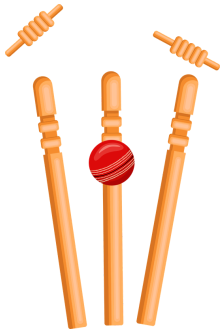


🏏 **Lower North Island Champions!** 🏆
What a fantastic achievement for our Year 9 & 10 cricket team, who have been crowned Lower North Island Cricket Champions! Congratulations to all the players and coaches on this well-deserved result!

Outstanding Cricket Moment!!



Congratulations to Grace Jaspers who had an outstanding opening spell in the 1st xl cricket match against Kuranui on Wednesday
4 overs bowled - 6 runs scored - 6 wickets (all bowled)



Disney THE LITTLE MERMAID JR

Congratulations to everyone who helped bring Disney's The Little Mermaid to life. The show was absolutely stunning, and we are incredibly proud of all the students, staff, and volunteers involved. Their hard work, talent, and dedication shone through in every performance, creating a memorable experience for our school community. Well done to everyone who contributed to such a wonderful production.









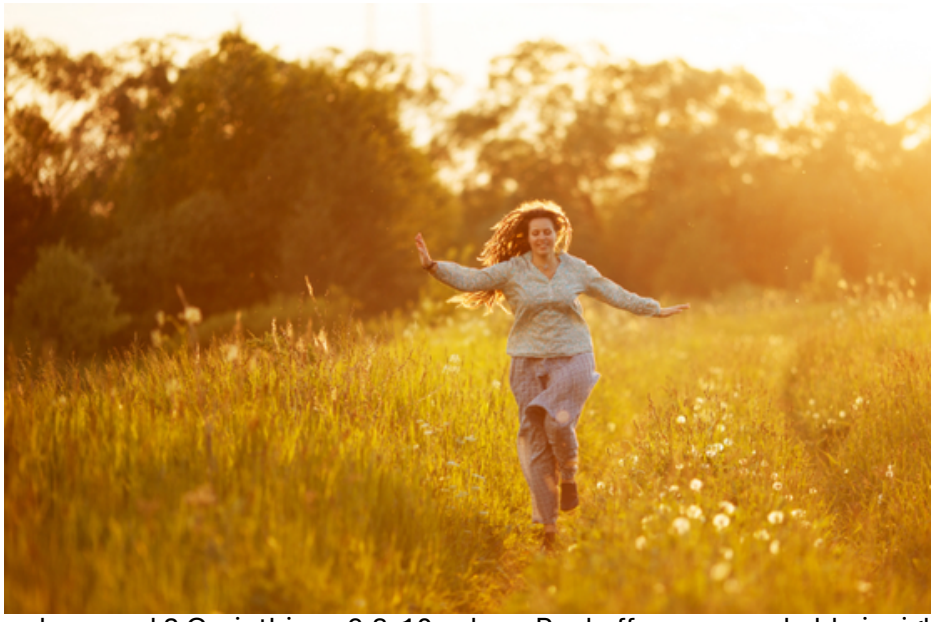






Karaitianatanga Ora / Christianity Alive

Joy in All Circumstances – Te Hari Ahakoa ngā Āhuatanga



This week in Chapel we read 2 Corinthians 6:3–10, where Paul offers a remarkable insight into the Christian understanding of joy. He describes the many hardships, disappointments and challenges faced by those serving God, yet speaks of remaining joyful even in difficult circumstances. This challenges the idea that happiness depends on everything going well. From a biblical perspective, te hari (joy) is deeper than temporary happiness. It is rooted in our relationship with God, our hope in Christ and the knowledge that we are loved and sustained by him.

“Sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.”
— 2 Corinthians 6:10

Paul reminds us that genuine joy is not the absence of difficulty, but the presence of hope. Ahakoa ngā uauatanga, ka mau tonu te hari – even amid difficulties, joy can remain. It is an inner confidence that God is with us, enabling us to respond to life's challenges with courage, gratitude and perseverance. Paul's example encourages us to become people who bring hope rather than despair, kindness rather than hostility, and encouragement rather than division. We can help transform our communities by including those who feel marginalised, standing up for those experiencing injustice and treating everyone with manaakitanga (care and respect).

Paul also demonstrates ngākau pono (integrity), remaining faithful to his beliefs even when circumstances are difficult. As a kura Karaitiana, we are challenged to consider whether our joy is reflected in how we treat others. May we discover that te hari pono (true joy) is not dependent on popularity, achievement or circumstances, but grows from faith, gratitude and love.
Kia hari, kia māia, kia pono – be joyful, be courageous, be faithful.



Year 9 & 10 singers performance

Last Sunday evening Year 9 & 10 singing students performed “High School Blues” for family and friends in the Music Suite to a packed very enthusiastic audience. Every student had a named role with dialogue, sang a solo, and managed up to three costume changes with aplomb. Cast: Harry Bamford (Rathkeale), Frankie Bond, Ruby Bremner, Zoe Cates, Elise Dry, Emily-Jane Edwards, Sienna Hawkins, Sophie Huzziff, Rosie Karaitiana, Michelle Kooiman, Eva MacManus, Aster Noble, Maggie Shi, Isla Smith, Lexi Standen, Isla Thomson, Chila Wakabayashi, Johanna Warrington

Senior College - Security Course

A two-day security course was recently held in the Senior College Centre, providing participants with valuable knowledge and practical skills in security awareness



SchoolDocs

Our school works with SchoolDocs to provide a website for maintaining, updating, and reviewing our school policies.
SchoolDocs has recently changed the way users log in to SchoolDocs sites.
All community users can now access our SchoolDocs site by entering their email address, which sends them a one-time code. Google users can also use their Google account to access the site.
You can create an account and then view our school's policies by visiting

https://policies.schooldocs.co.nz/stmatts

If you have any questions, please contact sm.principalspa@stmatts.school.nz

The St Matthew's second-hand uniform shop will close in February 2027

TIf you need uniform, please come to the second-hand shop before the end of this term to try on and buy. There is still uniform available, but stock is diminishing quickly with no further items being accepted for sale.

Tracksuits: Second-hand tracksuits for sale at the uniform shop have now been discounted as the new tracksuit with the standardised green has arrived at NZ Uniforms.

Shop hours until the end of term: Thursdays 1pm-4pm. The shop will then be closed for the summer break, re-opening in the last week of the holidays - the week starting Tuesday 26th January; hours will be posted on the school App closer to the time.

Please email Juliet Smith with any questions: smcsuniforms@stmatts.school.nz

Key Dates:

Tuesday 24 November - Masterton Primary Athletics

Wednesday 25 November - Silver Duke of Edinburgh Qualifier, Yr10 Work Experience

Thursday 26 November - Silver Duke of Edinburgh Qualifier, Yr10 Work Experience

Friday 27 November - UCOL Taster Day Yr10, NCEA Art Internal final submission

Monday 30 November -Wednesday 2 December - Activity Week

Tuesday 1 December - Wellington Regional Primary Athletics

Friday 4 Demcember - Final Assembly, Carol Service

2026 Term Dates

Term Four - Monday 12th October to Saturday 5 December

2027 Term Dates

Term One- Monday 1 February to Friday 9 April

Term Two - Tuesday 27 April to Friday 2 July

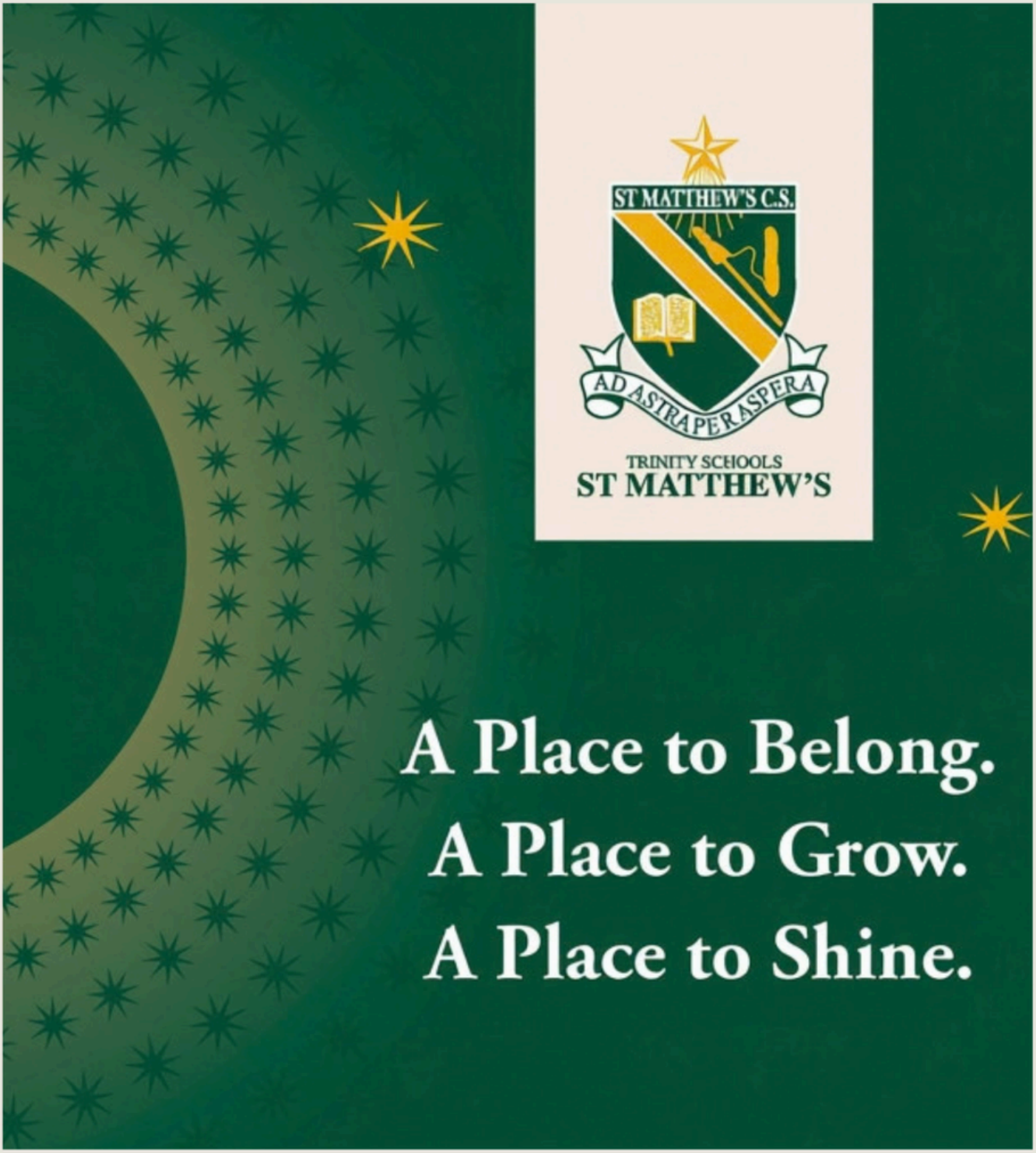
Term Three - Monday 19 July to Friday 24 September

Term Four - Monday 11 October to Saturday 4 December

ST MATTHEW'S C.S.
AD ASTRA PER ASPERA
TRINITY SCHOOLS
ST MATTHEW'S

WEBSITE

PRELUDE 2026



MAGAZINE
PRE-ORDER
$50 EACH*

Our annual school magazine, Prelude 2026, will be available as a printed keepsake by pre-order only. If your family would like to purchase a copy, please complete the form - link below
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/XQyeQkydfz

*Price excludes postage. Only one print run will be produced.

FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL PROGRAMME

All students must be in correct school uniform, including regulation Jewellery and no make-up
Grey Shirts Friday
White Shirts Saturday (summer formal apart from Y12/13 who will be in skirts)

8.45 AM	Whanau Time for Year 7-10 only School Clean-up – lockers/classrooms etc End of Year Whanau Celebration
9.30AM (YEAR 11 IN)	Year 11 in to meet Mrs Veale in the dining room
10AM (YEAR 13 IN)	Year 13 in for magazine photos
10.00AM	Morning Tea
10.30AM - 10.45AM	Year 13 to meet Reverend Wendy at the Chapel to rehearse the Leavers' part of the Carol Service
11AM -12PM (YEAR 12 IN)	Whole School 7-13 Prizegiving/Carol Service Rehearsal - Hall
12.00PM	Lunch Begins 12pm Y7-9, 12.10pm Y10, 12.15pm Y11, 12.20pm Y12/13
1.00PM-2.30PM (APPROX)	Final Assembly
5.30PM	Carol Service/Leavers Service – seated by 5.20pm (St Matthew's Parish Church)

Leaver's Breakfast - Saturday 5 December 8.15am
Prizegiving - Saturday 5 December 1.00pm Rathkeale College

To be updated due to new NZQA L2 English Exam

YOU ARE INVITED TO

St Matthew's Collegiate School Prizegiving

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER
1.00PM
RATHKEALE COLLEGE AUDITORIUM

ST MATTHEW'S C.S.
AD ASTRA PER ASPERA
TRINITY SCHOOLS
ST MATTHEW'S

Posh Poo
Sheep Manure

$12 per bag
OR $10 per bag for orders over 5 bags
(approx. 35 litres)

- Excellent fertiliser
- Can be dug in
- Or mixed with water to make a liquid fert

Raising funds for the First XI Cricket Tour to Australia

To order, contact:
Rachelshearing@stmatts.school.nz
027 767 7787

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CHRISTMAS Carol SERVICE

4TH DECEMBER, 2026

Celebrate the true spirit of Christmas with beautiful music, timeless hymns, and community togetherness, while also taking the opportunity to farewell our Year 13 leavers as they conclude their St Matthew's journey.

START AT 5.30PM
ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH
CHURCH STREET, MASTERTON

ST MATTHEW'S COLLEGIATE SCHOOL



Wairarapa Tennis

Parent & Child Tournament

~Sunday 13 December 2026~
~Martinborough Tennis Club~
ENTER VIA GOOGLE FORM HERE

DUNLOP
Official Ball Sponsor 2024

Age Groups: 8 & Under, 10 & Under, 12 & Under, 14 & Under, Open
The adult can be a parent, guardian, extended family or friend.

UNIFORM SHOP NOTICE

Please note that the St Matthew's Second-Hand Uniform Shop will be closing in 2027.

We kindly ask that no further uniforms be brought in for sale. The exception is donated uniforms, which will continue to be accepted until 4 December 2026.

The Uniform Shop will cease operations in mid-February 2027.

Thank you for your support of the Uniform Shop over the years.

SAUNDERS

SCHOOL SHOES AVAILABLE FROM

SAUNDERS SHOES

80 MAIN STREET

GREYTOWN



McKinlays Kristen



