

Principal's Message



Kia Ora Koutou

I want to take a moment to acknowledge how important it is for you to stay connected with your child's education, and we fully understand that there may be times when you need to reach out to a teacher or other staff member directly for assistance or clarification.

Please know that emailing or calling your learner's teacher is always welcome when you need support, and they are happy to help guide you and provide insight. However, I would like to remind you that teachers may not always be able to respond immediately after 5pm or over the weekends, as they also need time to rest and recharge to best serve your child during the school week. Rest assured, if a reply is needed, they will get back to you as soon as they are able.

At the heart of our approach is a commitment to cultivating resilience, both in our students and in our community. By allowing some space for thoughtful reflection and problem-solving, we are empowering our children and families to develop skills that will benefit them for years to come. I thank you for your understanding and continued support as we work together to nurture the well-being and growth of our students.

Friends of St Matthew's will be at Athletics and Swimming

Our Friends committee have products for sale on the sports days:

- Sausages and Bread (onions and sauces available) \$4
- Lolly Bags \$2

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school.

Please continue to let the school know if your learner is going to be absent or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

Knowing if your child is well enough to go to school can be tricky. Health guidance to support you to decide is available [Refreshed health guidance for parents and schools – Education Gazette](#). If you are still unsure, get in touch with us and let's work together to support your learner.

If you are struggling at home with getting your learner to school, talk to us so we can work together. Our school is committed to supporting you.

Our school continues to build a culture that fosters attendance every day by having:

- Strong relationships with students and family.
- A school culture that recognises your child and your family for who you are, where you come from and what you value.
- A school whānau that takes all practical steps to make sure your child is at school and progressing in their learning.
- A school that is safe and welcoming for everyone in our school community.

Mēnā e pāngia ana koe e te KOWHEORI-19 If you have COVID 19- guidelines from Health New Zealand

There are times I sit back and think about the days of Isolation and the military-like approaches and processes we undertook to hold the COVID 19 virus at bay. Actually, I sit and wonder 'did that actually happen?'. It did happen and COVID 19 did not disappear so we need to put complacency aside and follow the up-to-date guidelines to maintain and others wellness. As a reminder I have included those guidelines here.

If you test positive for COVID-19, it is recommended you isolate for at least 5 days, even if you only have mild symptoms. Below I have put the current guidelines for COVID 19

1. Start your recommended 5-day isolation period

If you test positive for COVID-19, it is recommended you isolate for at least 5 days, even if you only have mild symptoms. This is to prevent spreading COVID-19 to other people. You would start your isolation at Day 0 — this is the day your symptoms started or when you tested positive, whichever came first.

Isolation means not leaving your house and not going to work or school. It also means staying away from others in your household as much as possible.

- Sleep by yourself if you can and limit the time you spend in shared spaces.
- If you cannot avoid contact in your house, try to stay at least two metres apart and wear a face mask that covers your nose and mouth when near others.
- Get deliveries, such as food and medicine from whānau and friends, or by ordering supplies online. Identify a safe drop-off point outside the house to leave supplies.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces regularly. This includes things you touch often, like door handles, light switches and phones.
- Do your own laundry.
- Open windows to increase fresh air flow inside. The risk of spreading COVID-19 is highest in crowded and poorly ventilated indoor spaces.

4. Report your test result

It is still important to report your positive rapid antigen test (RAT) online or by calling the helpline. This is so you can be connected with any help and support you might need.

Online: [My Health Record\(external link\)](#)

Call: [0800 222 478](tel:0800222478)

If you had a PCR test, your results are reported automatically. You will get a text message with your result.

Receive a text message from Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora

After you report your result, Health New Zealand sends you a text message from the official 2328 or 2648 numbers to confirm your positive result.

The text also has information about antiviral medicines and support options but no longer includes an access code.

Taking leave from work

If your employer asks to see proof that you are isolating, you can use this text message. You do not need a medical certificate from a doctor.

[Leave and pay entitlements during COVID-19 — Employment New Zealand\(external link\)](#)

It has been a great start to the year. Summer Sport has really taken off and every afternoon the fields and courts are abuzz with sports activity - great to see. Keep in mind parent volunteers are welcome so if you can lend your skills drop us a line.

We have had another action packed past two weeks with boarders (and our lovely new tutors Nell and Awande) busy with a huge range of afterschool sports, endless hours in the pool, music practices, arts and craft sessions, youth group at Hadlow, a trip to Martinborough Fair, and the much-loved town leave. Boarders have the advantage of being able to make the most of all that is on offer at St Matthew's so please feel free to make contact if your daughter would like to try out some new activities.

A reminder to all part time boarders that your nights are now fixed for the term. This is very important so that we know the exact numbers in boarding each night.

Please note the contact details below for Main and Hampton House -

Main House (Years 7-11): 027 598 4404/ mainhouse@trinityschools.nz

Hampton (Years 12 and 13): 027 426 7866/ hampton@trinityschools.nz

We look forward to seeing those of you who can make it to our school Athletics Sports Day next Friday. Remember that this year our Athletics Sports will be held during the school day which makes it much easier for those who have a longer trip home.

Enjoy the weekend.

Jo



Ceres and Fiona at the Martinborough



Tutors Nell and Awande at the



Ella, Ceres, Fiona L, Fiona E and Amelie at the



Dani and Addison Duckett—





<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> Scots College fixture at Scots College Touch Quad Cricket 1st & 2nd XI Tennis Bus departs SMS @ 7am Return @ 5:30pm (TBC) </div> <p>Strength and Conditioning No session due to the Scots College Fixture. Please join the Thursday session instead.</p> <p><u>Tennis trainings/lessons</u> Lunch time: Ruby 1-1.30pm. Daphne 1.30pm.</p> <p>College ladder players & yr 11s (3.30-4pm): Amelia, Simone, Gemma, Aleisha, Riley M, Gita, Georgia, Lizzy, Phoebe G.</p> <p>Champs tennis teams training (4-5pm): Sophie B, Georgie D, Katelyn C, Olivia MC, Simone, Gemma, Orlagh, Sarah K, Lauren W, Tilly G.</p> <p>Regional 2 Tennis team training (5-6pm). SMS tennis courts.</p> <p>No preseason hockey skills</p> <p>Volleyball Games - Junior teams (yr 9 and 10) SMS Wha game at 3.40pm – minivan to depart at 3.20pm and pick up at 4.05pm SMS Ono game at 4.05pm – minivan depart at 3.40pm and pick up at 4.30pm SMS Rima game at 4.30pm – minivan depart at 4.10pm and pick up at 4.50pm</p>	<p>Primary Volleyball training 1.20-1.50pm in the Gym with Nell</p> <p>Cricket 1st & 2nd XI training (3.30pm-5pm). SMS nets.</p> <p>Development Cricket. BYE.</p> <p>Social Cricket vs Rathkeale T20. 3.45pm @Rathkeale College. boarding house minivan to depart at 3.15pm</p> <p>Football Preseason 3.30-4.45pm. SMS field. *If you are playing summer sport this takes preference over the preseason training</p>	<p>Cricket 1st XI vs PNGHS. 5pm @Rathkeale Oval. Boarding house minivan departs at 4pm.</p> <p>2nd XI vs PNGHS. 5pm @SMS.</p> <p>SMS Primary vs St Mary's Girls. 3:45pm @Douglas Park. Boarding house minivan leaving departs at 3:20pm.</p> <p>Tennis Lunch time: Brennagh & Abbey 1-1.30pm. Katelyn 1.30pm – 2pm.</p>	<p>Strength and Conditioning 3:45-4:45pm. Top team trialists. Meet on the school field. Full PE gear and Sport Shoes must be worn – no one will participate bare foot or in school uniform.</p> <p>Tennis: Regional 2: SMS Black vs Marty Green @Martinborough. SMS Green vs Opaki White @SMS.</p> <p>College Ladder Games. Boarding house minivan to depart at 3.20pm to Masterton tennis club</p> <p>Yr 7 and 8 group lessons (3.15pm-3.45pm): Madison, Sasha, Bonnie, Molly, Zoe, Elise, Charlotte, Bella, Rosie, Zara, Nina, Elise, Lily D, Zoe P.</p> <p>Yr 9 & 10 lessons (3.45-4.15pm): Ella, Olivia K, Elise, Georgia G, Ruby W, Georgia, Indi</p> <p>Junior Interclub teams (4.15-5.15pm): Paige S, Hetty S, Holly J, Daphne, Ruby B, Hattie, Lexi, Nhia, Riley F, Briella, Bella W, Louisa W, phoebe S</p> <p>Touch Rugby @ Makoura College.</p> <p>SMS Falcons, Eagles and Robins Depart in boarding minivan @ 15:40 and pick up 17:00. Game at 16:15.</p> <p>SMS Ravens, and Hawks Depart in boarding minivan @ 16:15 and pick up 17:30. Game at 16:50.</p> <p>SMS Jay, and Starlings Depart in boarding minivan @ 16:45 and pick up 18:00. Game at 17:30.</p>	<p>St Matthew's Collegiate Athletics Day</p> <p>Tennis: Regional 2: SMS Gold BYE. SMS White BYE.</p> <p>Interclub Tennis Games: SMS Kiwikipi vs Rathkeale Green @SMS.</p> <p>SMS Kowhai vs Hadlow Sinner @MTC 9-11.</p> <p>SMS Kakariki vs Rathkeale Red @Rathkeale. Boarding house minivan to depart at 3.20pm</p> <p>SMS Kikorangi vs Hadlow Djokovic @Hadlow.</p> <p>SMS Rizzlers BYE.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUNDAY</p>
---	---	---	---	---	--

SELLING YOUR UNIFORM SECOND HAND

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

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

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


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

Ties & caps are sold second hand, but any money generated will be a donation to the shop.

Medical Information

Does your daughter carry an Epi Pen?
Does your daughter carry/require medication?
Does your daughter's 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.



- **Saturday 22 March** - Exeat Weekend
- **Sunday 23 March** - Exeat Weekend
- **Monday 2 June** - King's Birthday stat day
- **Tuesday 3 June** - Teacher Only day
- **Friday 20 June** - Matariki stat day

2025 Term Dates

Term One - Monday 27th January to Friday 11 April

Term Two - Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June

Term Three - Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September

Term Four - Monday 6th October to Saturday 6 December



School App

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

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

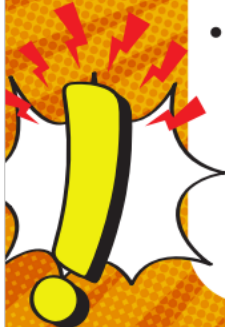
!!! DENTAL REMINDER

Book your college age student in for their annual DENTAL check-up!

KEY MESSAGES

- Take your college age student to your local dentist every year
- Your college age student does not have to be at school - they just need to be under 18!
- Annual check-ups with your dentist start in Year 9
- Your 17 year old should have a visit before they turn 18 - If your child has never been seen or missed their last check-up, get seen now!

Don't wait for the practice to call you. Ring your local dental practice to book an appointment NOW!



HOCKEY
WAIRARAPA

SUMMER ACADEMY 2025

YEAR 10-13 (U18)

EOI OPEN 3RD FEBRUARY- 22ND FEBRUARY

SESSIONS START 24TH FEBRUARY

REGISTER:
WWW.HOCKEYWAIRARAPA.ORG.NZ/REPRESENTATIVEDEVELOPMENT/SUMMER-ACADEMY

How to Hockey 2025

A new programme designed to help Year 9 students transition to 11-a-side hockey. Whether you're looking to sharpen your skills or start fresh, How to Hockey is the perfect way to learn and enjoy the game!

www.hockeywairarapa.org.nz/programmes/how-to-hockey

QR VIDEO TRAIL

MILLENNIUM NATIVE FOREST RESERVE

March 1, 2025

at 2.00PM

Worsleys Green

The illustration shows a hand holding a smartphone. The phone screen displays a QR code with the text "MILLENNIUM NATIVE FOREST RESERVE" above it and "Watch the film 'Creating the Reserve'" below it. Below the QR code is a large number "2" and a website link "www.mnfr.org.nz". The phone's camera interface is visible at the bottom. In the background, a woman in an orange coat walks on a path. To her right is a map of the reserve with numbered trails (1-7) and labels for "Worsleys Green", "Wetlands", "Hillcrest St", and "Powmill St". A large bird is flying on the left, and a kiwi is at the bottom.

Explore the Reserve's trails.
Scan the QR codes with your phone.
Discover The Reserve's history, wildlife, and conservation efforts.

Plus:

- Talks from special speakers
- Community Stalls
- Picnic in nature

Don't forget your phone to explore the trail and a picnic to enjoy on the Green!



UPCOMING ONLINE INFORMATION MEETING DATES



WEDNESDAY
19 FEB
AT 6PM

THURSDAY
6 MAR
AT 6PM

WEDNESDAY
19 MAR
AT 6PM



REGISTER AT WWW.YOUREDUCTION.CO.NZ

High School Exchanges!

If you want to know more about overseas High School Exchanges from Your Education, register your interest for one of our Online Information Sessions. The next one is at 6pm on Wednesday 19th February. All interested students Y10–Y13 and their parents are welcome. An experienced staff member and returnees will share information about the destinations we are offering in 2025 and 2026. RSVP on our website

www.youreducation.co.nz/next-steps.

Follow us on Instagram @youreducationexchanges for regular updates and stories from us.