

## Principal's Message



Kia Ora Koutou

It makes sense to celebrate our students and yesterday's Music Festival saw us enjoying their fruits of their musical endeavours.

My message is that I now want to share a clever piece of writing by year 10 Poppy Bell. Enjoy.

**Greta Gum-Butler**

### ***The Woman who Revolutionised Gumboot Drying has Left a Legacy***

*Greta Gum-Butler (1948-2016) was a trailblazer in rural New Zealand, best known for her ground-breaking creation of the AI-powered gumboot dryer. Her name may not go down in history, but she was a hero to those who worked the fields in relentless rain and mud.*

#### ***Born to Innovate (and Dry)***

*Greta was born the only daughter in a family of 47 brothers, so her upbringing on the farm was far from ordinary. While her brothers raced out into the fields, returning caked in mud, Greta had the difficult duty of drying endless rows of muddy gumboots. Greta, unlike those around her, saw this as an opportunity for innovation and change.*

Greta set out to tackle the age-old problem of wet footwear, inspired by the limitless possibilities of modern technology, such as cassette tapes and domestic railcars. In 1982 she debuted her invention, the Butler-3000, an AI-powered gumboot dryer that could detect moisture levels, alter temperature settings, and even scent boots with the familiar scent of fresh hay. Nobody had ever seen anything like it. In addition to drying gumboots, the Butler-3000 used state-of-the-art artificial intelligence to determine the precise "mud-to-moisture ratio" before blasting them with precisely calibrated air jets. No pair of gumboots was really dry, unless they smelt like a farm straight out of a rural romance story.

### **"A Farmer's Best Friend" or "Mad Scientist"?**

Initially, Greta's invention was viewed sceptically. Rural residents, known for their practicality, doubted that they needed a machine to do something they had been doing by hand for decades. One neighbour allegedly stated "Greta was moving with the times.. too fast, if you ask me." However, local farmers soon realised the convenience of waking up to dry, farm-fresh-smelling boots, ready for another day's work.

Though not without its critics—one reviewer famously referred to the dryer as "more complicated than a sheep's stomach"—the Butler-3000 has a cult following among serious gumboot enthusiasts. It was even rumoured to cut farm downtime by 2%, a figure Greta proudly exhibited on her handcrafted marketing posters at every community gathering.

### **Gone But Not Forgotten.**

Though her AI gumboot drier was never a commercial success, Greta Gum-Butler's name lives on in the hearts of rural kiwis who remember her quirkiness and determination. A local remarked, "Kids were nothing compared with bolshie ewes, but Greta was nothing if not bolshie herself."

Greta died in 2016, leaving her Butler-3000 to gather dust in a barn in Muckville. Yet farmers still share stories about the woman who dared to dream of dry boots. Was she a quirky genius with too much free time, or a trailblazer who transformed farm footwear? Perhaps the true genius of the Butler-3000 lies not just in its innovative smell settings, but in Greta's belief that even the dirtiest boots deserve a touch of luxury. Whether a heroic inventor or simply ahead of her time, her legacy endures in the hearts of those who were lucky enough to experience dry gumboots with the scent of fresh hay.

**Have a great and safe weekend**

**Kiri**

# Around School

## Boarding Note

With exams almost over for seniors and juniors, it has been nice to see the boarders a little more relaxed in and around boarding.

Last week this lovely photo was taken of a small group of boarders sharing afternoon tea before departing for their after school activities. The afternoons are such a nice time of the day for boarders to connect with each other and boarding staff. If you were wondering why they all seem so pleased it is probably due to the cinnamon scrolls the catering team made them... an afternoon tea favourite!

*Left to right on stairs- Amelia Didsbury and Michelle Kooiman, and standing- Riley Galbreath, Olivia Kooiman, Mia Sayers, Mrs Fair, Olivia McCreary.*



During study leave it has been great to have some of our Hampton House boarders popping over to Main House for a chat and to check out morning tea options.

Thank you to Mr Scott Andrew who provided the Christmas Tree for Main House this year and to the other families who kindly offered. It has become a tradition that each boarder has a card tied to the tree with a personal note inside, so the tree is very important!

*Left to right- Sally Booth, Grace Jaspers, Maia Svenson, Kiera McKenzie.*

With the end of the year quickly approaching, there are a few sign out options available for boarders to consider-

**Option 1:** Signing out after the Boarder's Christmas Dinner on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December, and attend as a daygirl Friday and Saturday.

**Option 2:** Signing out before or after the Carol Service on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, and attend Prizegiving on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December at the Rathkeale College Auditorium at 1pm.

**Option 3:** Signing out before 12pm on Saturday morning. Once prizegiving is over the houses will be open until 4pm for the last boarders to sign out.

Please note that Friday and Saturday are compulsory school days. If students are not attending, a special leave form is needed.

*Have a great weekend.*

Jo

## Year 10 French Chocolate Making

The Year 10 French class was busy this week making 'papillotes', Christmas chocolates with a little message inside. The girls were very happy with their work and even managed to take home some chocolates uneaten!





# UCOL Taster Day

Last Friday the Year 10 Cohort experienced what UCOL has to offer by attending the 2025 Taster Day. The students enjoyed the hand on opportunities to try out new skills, and be exposed to a variety of potential career paths.

Thanks to Sarah Chapman, Monika Theng, Rachael Shearing and Robyn for supporting the students. Also, to Trudy Sears and her team for their organisation.



## Year 10 Work Experience

On Thursday and Friday of week 6 the year 10 cohort were lucky enough to be employed by several local and wider Wellington/Manawatu businesses. These real-life opportunities give students the courage to step outside their comfort zones and explore what working life might be like. Thank you to the following businesses for your support—

**Adamson Shaw**

**Allure Concept Boutique**

**Aunt Gingers Kitchen**

**Back in Action**

**Bin Inn Masterton**

**Broadway Specialist Centre**

**Busy Bees Masterton**

**Carterton Preschool and Littlies**

**Changes Medi-Spa**

**Cole Street Early Learning Centre**

**Entice Café**

**Famly**

**Gavin Green Dairy Farm**

**Gibson Sheat Lawyer**

**Greytown School**

**Hadlow School**

**Harvest.com**

**Inhouse Lawyer**

**Koi**

**La Cutting Crew**

**Ladymead**

**Lansdowne Private Childcare and Preschool**

**Life Pharmacy Masterton**

**Lorna Potter**

**Lucid Chocolatier**

**Madison Hair Studio**

**Makoura Early Learning Centre**

**Martinborough Kindergarten**

**Masterton Bakery- Master Fried Chicken**

**Masterton Foodbank**

**Masterton Hospital**

**Masterton Police Station**

**Miff Lawn Services**

**Palliser Estate**

**PGG Wrightson**

**South Featherston School**

**South Wairarapa Vets- Greytown**

**Southend Pharmacy**

**Ten O'Clock Cookie Company**

**The Screening Room**

**Twiggy Estate**

**Wairarapa Osteopathy**

**Wellington Chocolate Factory**

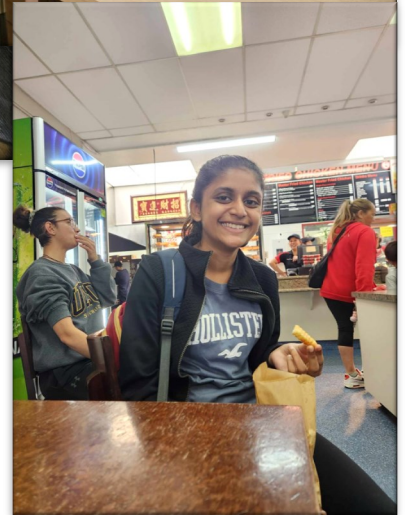
**Wellington City Mission Store**

**Wharekauahu Country Estate**

**York Street Kindergarten**

\*\*\* Thank you \*\*\*







# Primary Athletics

## Masterton Cluster Primary Athletics Results:

### 100m Yr 7

Elouise Pocock -3rd  
Bonnie Shen – 4<sup>th</sup>  
Holly Johnston – 13<sup>th</sup>

### 100m Yr 8

Charlotte Jaspers – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Persia Liumaihetau – 12<sup>th</sup>  
Charlotte Johnson – 14<sup>th</sup>

### 200m Yr 7

Elouise Pocock – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Bonnie Shen – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Daphne Tulloch – 14<sup>th</sup>

### 200m Yr 8

Phoebe Gray – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Charlotte Johnson – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Charlotte Jaspers – 11<sup>th</sup>  
Annie Laird-Hume – 15<sup>th</sup>  
Annabel Hepburn – 16<sup>th</sup>

### Relays

Yr 7 – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Yr 8 – 4<sup>th</sup>

### Shot Put Yr 7

Paige Shearing – 5<sup>th</sup>

### Shot Put Yr 8

Vienna Weatherstone – 4<sup>th</sup>  
Annabelle Wyeth – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Lauren Weber – 7<sup>th</sup>

### Discus Yr 7

Ruby Bremner – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Paige Shearing – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Holly Johnston – 11<sup>th</sup>  
Nhia Witinitara – 12<sup>th</sup>

### Discus Yr 8

Molly Jurlina – 4<sup>th</sup>  
Persia Liumaihetau – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Annabel Hepburn – 9<sup>th</sup>

### High Jump Yr 7

Tess Clearwater – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Francesca Bond – 9<sup>th</sup>

### High Jump Yr 8

Abbey Mackay – 5<sup>th</sup>

### Long Jump Yr 7

Holly Johnston – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Bonnie Shen – 13<sup>th</sup>  
Paige Shearing – 14<sup>th</sup>

### Long Jump Yr 8

Charlotte Jaspers – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Lauren Weber – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Annie Laird-Hume – 15<sup>th</sup>

### Vortex Yr 7

Paige Shearing – 1<sup>st</sup>  
Nhia Witinitara – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Daphne Tulloch – 7<sup>th</sup>

### Vortex Yr 8

Charlotte Jaspers – 4<sup>th</sup>

**Well done to all students who participated in the event – it was a great day for all**

**Special mention goes to the following three students who went on to represent Wairarapa at the Wellington Regional Athletics held earlier this week: *Please see their events and results below***

Elouise Pocock – 11<sup>th</sup> in yr 7 girls 200m & 14<sup>th</sup> in yr 7 girls 100m

Ruby Bremner – 19<sup>th</sup> in yr 7 girls Discus

Paige Shearing – 1<sup>st</sup> in yr 7 girls Vortex

Thank you to the Year 10 PE class for their assistance on the day – it was greatly appreciated by all the schools in attendance.

*You were great role models for St Matthew's Collegiate.*



# Sport Sheet

## St Matthew's Collegiate Weekly Sports Sheet Term 4 – Week 8

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p><b>Strength and conditioning</b> Anyone welcome at any time! @3:45-5pm</p> <p><b>Tennis lessons</b> Serenas @3:30-4pm Swift @4-4:30pm Rizzlers @4:30-5pm Regional 2 teams @5-6pm</p> <p><b>Swimming- Everyone welcome!</b> Pool is open 1:15-2pm</p> <p><b>SMS fitness gym</b> Open from 3:30-5pm</p> <p><b>Cricket</b> Primary Gold training @3:30-4:45pm in the gym.</p>	<p><b>Cricket</b> 1<sup>st</sup> XI training at the nets @3:30-5:15pm</p> <p><b>Tennis</b> Players welcome to challenge eachother for the ladder</p> <p><b>Swimming- Everyone welcome!</b> Pool is open: 1:15-2pm 3:30-5pm</p> <p><b>SMS fitness gym</b> Open from 3:30-5pm</p> <p><b>Strength and conditioning</b> Top team fitness testing @3:30-4:30</p>	<p><b>Cricket</b> Primary Green training @lunch time. *Eat lunch and then quickly head to the gym for training.*</p> <p><b>4pm (last games!)</b> <b>SMS Junior Green</b> vs Solway yr 7+8s @Solway college (Minivan depart @ 3:20. Call for pickup)</p> <p><b>SMS Junior Gold</b> Vs Lakeview yr 7/8 girls @Douglas Park (Walk over @3:20)</p> <p><b>SMS 1<sup>st</sup> XI</b> vs Rathkeale Red @SMS</p> <p><b>Swimming- Everyone welcome!</b> Pool is open 1:15-2pm</p>	<p><b>Tennis lessons</b> Swagsters @3:45-4.15pm Group A @4.15-4:45pm Group B @4.45-5.15pm</p> <p><b>Swimming- Everyone welcome!</b> Pool is open: 1:15-2pm 3:30-5pm</p> <p><b>SMS fitness gym</b> Open from 3:30-5pm</p> <p><b>Strength and conditioning</b> Top team fitness testing @3:30-4:30</p>	<p><b>Tennis matches- Interclub</b> <b>SMS Swaggsters</b> vs TBC</p> <p><b>SMS Swift</b> vs TBC</p> <p><b>SMS Rizzlers</b> vs TBC</p> <p><b>SMS Serenas</b> vs TBC</p> <p><b>Swimming- Everyone welcome!</b> Pool is open 1:15-2pm</p>	<p><b>December Holiday!</b></p>	<p><b>December Holiday!</b></p>

Blue highlight – Info tbc

Yellow highlight – Updated info/changes have been made

### St Matthew's second hand uniform (Holiday shop hours)

If you have uniform to sell and would like to bring it directly to the uniform shop during the holidays, here are the dates:

Monday 16th December – by appointment only.

By appointment – during the week Monday 13th – Friday 17th January.

The shop will be open (no appointment needed) Tuesday 21st - Friday 24th January, 10am - 3pm each day.

Please note that the shop will not be open on Monday 20th January being Anniversary day.

**TSTB Accounts have upgraded their billing system that sends out your monthly invoice/statement.**

**Please note there will no longer be a PDF attachment. Instead please click where it says Click here in the email and it will open your invoice/statement.**

*Thank you  
Sally & Sharon*

## Key Dates

<b>Saturday 7th December</b>	Prizegiving 1pm Rathkeale Auditorium
<b>Monday 27th January</b>	First day of Term 1 2025
<b>Thursday 6th February</b>	Waitangi Day stat
<b>Friday 7th February</b>	Extended
<b>Monday 2nd June</b>	King's Birthday stat
<b>Tuesday 3rd June</b>	Teacher Only Day
<b>Friday 20th June</b>	Matariki stat

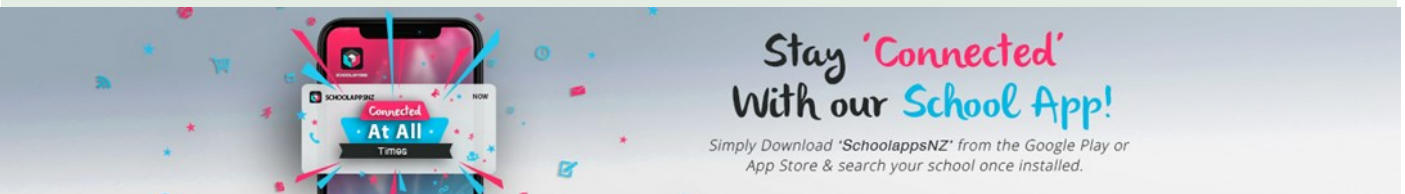
### 2025 Term Dates

**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://schoolappsnz.co.nz/install](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.



Stay **'Connected'**  
With our **School App!**  
Simply Download 'SchoolappsNZ' from the Google Play or App Store & search your school once installed.

## Community News and Events



**DUNLOP**  
Official Ball Sponsor 2024

Wairarapa  
Tennis

**Parent & Child  
Tournament**  
~Sunday 15th December 2024~  
~Martinborough Tennis Club~

Age Groups: 8 & Under, 10 & Under, 12 & Under, 14 & under, Open  
\*Child or Adult must be affiliated to a Wairarapa Tennis Club or School  
The Adult may be any immediate family member : Parent, grandparent, guardian





# Parent & Child Tournament 2024

Held at Martinborough Lawn Tennis Club  
Sunday 15th December

## Key Information Sheet

### VENUE :

Martinborough Tennis Centre,  
Cnr Regent and Oxford Street

### GRADES:

8 & Under, 10 & Under, 12 & Under,  
14 & Under, and Open.  
(Age as at 31st December 2024)

### TEAM FORMAT:

- 1 child & 1 adult. Adult can be parent, grandparent, guardian, extended family.
- Open grade – no age limit, doubles pairing needs to be immediate family (parent/grandparent).

Either the child or the Adult must be affiliated to a Wairarapa Tennis Club or school.

### MATCH FORMAT:

Doubles only– First to 9 with tie break at 8 all.  
All teams guaranteed at least three matches (weather permitting).

**BALLS:** Dunlop AO Balls for 12& under grade and above.

Green balls for 10 and under grades.

**PRIZES** for each age group.

### START TIMES

Briefing 8:45am; 9.00am start.

### ENTRY:

\$40.00 per team  
Payable by Internet in advance, to Wairarapa Tennis Association  
03 0687 0326225 00  
Please use child's surname as reference, or cash on the day.

### ENTRIES:

Now open, by Google Form:  
<https://forms.gle/taaFrMcgRGKUr8a36>

Link to form also available on WT website

**ENTRIES CLOSE:** 5pm Thursday 12th December. The Draw will be issued on the day. Results will not be entered into MatchHub

**WHAT TO BRING:** Bring lunch and snacks, Some food will be available on the day, Players to bring their own racquet, suitable clothing, footwear, drink bottle, a hat and sunscreen.

**CANCELLATION:** Players will be notified by email by 7.30am on Sunday 15th December if the tournament is cancelled due to bad weather.

### KEY CONTACTS:

Entries:& Info prior: Rebecca Pearce  
Email: [wairarapatennis@gmail.com](mailto:wairarapatennis@gmail.com)

On the day: Marco de Groot  
[mrcdgrt33@gmail.com](mailto:mrcdgrt33@gmail.com)

# ACTING ANTICS

Self Discovery Through Performance™

## Summer Theatre Camps

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

### December 17-20 "Bah Humbug"



*Bah Hum Bug is set in the LMA (Leave Me Alone) Retirement Home for the rich & famous. Join Dr. Troy, Sister Grimsby & the nursing staff as they prepare for the arrival of celebrity TV presenter Tina Talkalot and her sidekicks Taffy & Toots for the interview of the year. What could possibly go wrong? But they hadn't counted on cleaners, Jose and Cactus, or Vera, the forgetful tea lady, getting in on the action.*

*Hans and Heidi have been caught cheating at cards again. The Grand Shuffler is very disappointed, so he decides to teach them a lesson by removing the four Aces from the pack. No more card games ever again! The Aces have been sent to the Land of the Bogels, the Land of the Dryads, and the Land of Dreams, but the Joker has escaped and cast a spell on the Grand Dream Giver so he can only give bad dreams! Can Hans & Heidi find the Aces and return them to the pack and halt the Joker's evil scheme? Will there ever be good dreams again?*



### January 21- 24 "The Joker's Wild"

<b>Ages:</b>	8 to 13 years (No previous experience required)
<b>Venue:</b>	St Matthew's Collegiate School
<b>Hours:</b>	Program operates 9am-3pm - Venue open 8:30am-3:30pm
<b>Performance:</b>	3pm on the final day in the Auditorium
<b>Fees:</b>	\$195 (Includes tuition, script, costumes, Acting Antics book bag, Kids Club folder & performance certificate)
<b>Director:</b>	Deborah Percy

In association with **St Matthew's Collegiate School**

REGISTER: [www.wairarapa.actingantics.com](http://www.wairarapa.actingantics.com), ENQUIRIES: [deborah@actingantics.com](mailto:deborah@actingantics.com) - 0211832508





# Is there room in your home for one more?

A weekend, a week, or sometimes longer  
- the choice is yours



We are looking for caring families to be part of a Christian community response who are willing to open up their heart and home to provide respite care for a child or young person.

## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Find out more about this exciting ministry

For further information, please contact:

**our Foster Parent Recruiter, Tania**

Wairarapa Service Centre

027 483 5626

Tania.Woodbridge@ohf.org.nz

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

A Christian Community Response

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