

MATAWAI SCHOOL

Where the hills are high, and the sky is the limit

Newsletter

Week 6 - Term 4 || 20th November 2026 || Roll 55

@MATAWAI SCHOOL | MATAWAI.SCHOOL.NZ | 06 8624813 | OFFICE@MATAWAI.SCHOOL.NZ

Principals Corner

Kia ora whānau,

It was wonderful to celebrate our students' achievements last week, with many deserving learners receiving class awards for their hard work, kindness, and positive attitudes.

As we move through this busy time of the year, there are still a few bugs doing the rounds. Please remember to let the school office know as early as possible if your child is unwell and needs to stay home—this helps us keep our attendance accurate and ensures everyone stays healthy for the fun ahead.

Looking to the coming weeks, there is a huge amount of excitement building across every classroom!

- Room 4 are eagerly counting down the days until they head off to Ōhope Beach for a full week of adventure and outdoor learning at senior camp.
- Room 3 are buzzing for their upcoming school sleepover, with Mr Vance having plenty of fun activities and surprises planned.
- Room 1 are getting ready for their special fun day out—and we hear the stingrays are just as excited to meet them!

We certainly have a packed and memorable final few weeks ahead of us before we officially farewell 2026. Thank you for your continued support in helping make the end of the year so special for our tamariki.

Have a great week!

Nga mihi,

Matua Steve

UPCOMING EVENTS:

30/11-4/12 Senior Camp

30/11- Targa Rally Pitstop at Matawai School 2-5pm. HELP NEEDED!

Monday 7th December - Room 1 Fun day

Thursday 10th December – Room 3 Sleepover at school

Friday 18th December - End of year assembly & LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

TERM 1 2027

STARTS ON WEDNESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY



2027

TEACHERS

We are thrilled to share our teaching make up for 2027. We have been fortunate to have some great roll growth this year, with further positive roll projections for 2027 - which allows us to have some strong teaching support across the school.

2027 Teaching Staff	
Name	**Roles & Responsibilities**
Steve Burgess	Principal Classroom Release - Rooms 3 & 4
Shannon Valente	Room 1 Teacher - Mon - Thurs (Years 0 - 2)
Sue Renner	Room 1 Teacher - Fridays (Years 0 - 2)
Vance Carlin	Room 3 Teacher (Years 3 - 5)
Sarika Devi	Room 4 Teacher (Years 6 - 8)
Melanie Brown	Classroom Release - Rooms 1 & 3



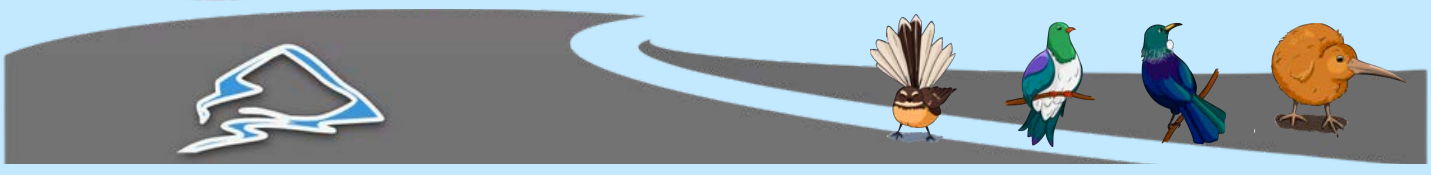
CLASS ATTENDACE

TERM 4 ATTENDANCE TO DATE

ROOM 1: 78%

ROOM 3: 87%

ROOM 4: 86%



2027
TERM DATES

Term 1

Wednesday 3rd Febuary - Friday 9th April

(10 Weeks)

Term 2

Tuesday 27th April - Friday 2nd July

(10 Weeks)

Term 3

Monday 19th July - Friday 24th September

(10 Weeks)

Term 4

Monday 11th October - Thursday 16th December

(10 Weeks)



WELCOME!

Kia ora, Matawai whānau!
A warm hello from your new Kaiako.
Ko Sarika ahau.
I'm excited to be joining the Matawai community and I look forward to getting to know the tamariki, their families and the wider community.
I feel very fortunate to be part of your children's learning journey.
A little about my journey, I'm originally from Fiji but have been living in Aotearoa since 2023. I bring around 14 years of primary teaching experience from Fiji, including teaching in rural communities, composite classrooms and upper-primary classes. I have enjoyed living and working in the Fijian countryside as my father is a farmer, and in villages - where strong relationships and community connections are such an important part of everyday life.
My experience in Aotearoa In New Zealand, I have had the privilege of working in early childhood education and learning alongside children of ages around 6 months to 5 years. This experience has strengthened my understanding of children's growth and development, and of Te Whariki, the early childhood NZ curriculum. Looking forward, I believe every child deserves to feel a sense of belonging, confidence and joy in learning.

I'm looking forward to sharing new experiences, learning together and becoming part of the wonderful Matawai community.

Nga mihi nui, Sarika Devi



Well done to last weeks classroom award winners :
Ejahney, Latisha, Olivia, Marcus and Lexa





Thankyou to Mr. Vance and his lovely assistant Jess, for the Monday afterschool swimming sessions - these are going great and our kids are lucky to have you!

Fire Brigade Community Potluck Dinner

First Friday each month

Bring a plate to share

6pm onwards

Cash Bar

pool - darts - music

MOTU 4WD SAFARI 2027

GEAR UP FOR THE ULTIMATE OFF-ROAD WEEKEND WITHOURLEGENDARY BI-ANNUAL 3-DAY 4WD ADVENTURE BASED IN THE MOTU VILLAGE!



Grab your mates, make a team or come as an individual.

Tackle some tricky terrain–from river crossings and tracks to sweeping farmland–all while taking in some of the most stunning backcountry views New Zealand has to offer



Unbeatable vibes fellow off-road enthusiasts

JAN 30TH - FEB 1ST 2027







Registrations open 1st September 2026, and close 20th December 2026.
Camping is available on Friday 29th January and Monday 2nd February if required.

Email: motu4wdsafari@gmail.com
Or visit Motu 4WD Safari 2027 Facebook page for more details.

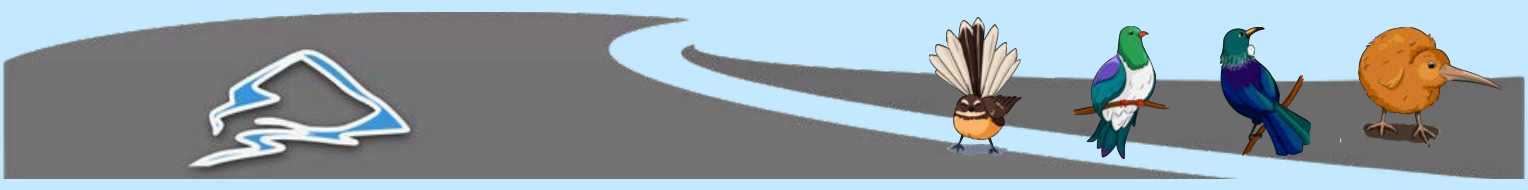
NZ SILVER FERN RALLY

ROAD OPEN FOR SCHOOL BUS

Go Bus & Matawai School would like to let everyone know that the buses will still run on the day of the rally (30/11)

WANTED

Selection of boys and girls clothes for our spare clothing box. If you have anything to donate that would be great. Warm jerseys, track pants, shorts, tees. Please bring to the office

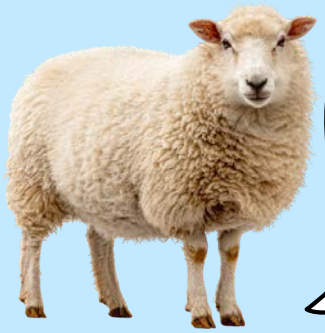


Gisborne Glass is coming up to do a day in Matawai. If you have any jobs that need doing then please contact them

Matawai Community Christmas Market

20TH DECEMBER 10AM - 3PM
MATAWAI MEMORIAL HALL
SH2, MATAWAI

Cash Only (some vendors have bank transfer available)
Vendor Enquiries Welcome



Sheep drive pickup date TODAY! (Friday)
See attached flyer

USED HORSE SHOES WANTED FOR A PROJECT (OLD & RUSTY) PLEASE BRING TO OFFICE OR CONTACT JESS ARTHUR ON 0276249916

Lucy's

cleaning, gardening, lawn mowing, babysitting or odd job services.

Cleaning | Gardening | Lawn Mowing | Babysitting | Odd Jobs

I'm looking for school holiday work and happy to help you with a spring clean or catch up on spring gardens or lawns.

You may need a day free to Christmas shop or catch up, a day or night off?
I can help keep kids occupied.

Get in touch if you have anything you need a hand with and I'll do my best to get it under control.

Available from December 12th

Lucy
027 686 4075

PGG Wrightson

PGG Wrightson Matawai is looking for a Permanent Part Time Customer Service Rep. Position is two days a week, for more details please contact Justin at the store 0278018780 or email jcameron@pggwrightson.co.nz

LEMONS FOR SALE $3/KG



CONTACT JACK & TOM ON 0276249916

NZ SILVER FERN RALLY

WE NEED YOUR HELP



MARSHALLS NEEDED

TE WERA & WHAKARAU STAGES

DATE: MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

If you can volunteer your afternoon, our school will recieve a donation!

Please contact the office for more details & to put your name down.

Enjoy the rally from VIP seating

Can't help? The rally will be pitstopping at Matawai School between 2-5pm - stop by and check it out!

The Nutcracker



Presented by
Proctor Productions
with students from

Nadine Antoinette School of Dance

War Memorial Theatre
Saturday 28th November 2026
Matinee 1:30pm Evening 6:00pm
Tickets available now from eventfinda or Gisborne isite

Matawai Playgroup

SHEEP DRIVE Fundraiser

Support our local families, our children and our community!



Help us protect our local Playcentre funds and build a brighter future for Matawai!

Matawai Playgroup is organising a Sheep Drive Fundraiser to raise funds to help our community retain the money held in our local Playcentre account.

These funds have been built up over many years for the benefit of our local community. We are seeking legal advice to help us establish our options and retain these funds for the purpose they were intended for.

Our goal is to keep this money working for Matawai, supporting our children, families and wider community.

Where will the money go?

First priority:

Raising funds to cover the cost of legal advice and representation to help us retain the money held in our local Playcentre account.

Community future:

Any money left over after legal costs will go towards our plans to build a new shared community building to replace the old Playcentre building, including a dedicated woodwork room for the school.

A new shared community building for Matawai



The new building will include:

- ✓ A dedicated playgroup space for our youngest children
- ✓ A woodwork room for the school
- ✓ Kitchenette
- ✓ Bathroom facilities
- ✓ Spaces for other community groups to use



A space for learning, playing, creating and connecting.

How you can help:

1. **Donate sheep**
   We're asking for kind community members, farmers and businesses to donate sheep.
2. **Drop off at our farm**
   6952 Matawai road
   on the 20th of November
3. **Truck collects**
   A truck will pick up the sheep from our farm and take them to the works.
4. **Make a difference**
   Every sheep donated, every dollar raised and every bit of support helps our community!

Please contact **Megan**

027 819 5164
megan_geary@hotmail.com

if you are able to donate or would like to discuss more about the fundraiser:

Let's come together as a community!



EAST COAST

— RURAL ATV SERVICES —

MOBILE ATV & UTV SERVICING • SAFETY CHECKS • REPAIRS

WE COME TO YOU!

ON FARM. IN THE PADDOCK. WHERE YOU NEED US.



BASIC SERVICE FOR ATV / UTV

FROM **$199** INCLUDES GST

- ✓ ENGINE OIL & FILTER
- ✓ AIR FILTER
- ✓ CHECK OVER
- ✓ FLUID TOP UPS
- ✓ GREASING
- ✓ SAFETY CHECK

*CONDITIONS APPLY. PARTS EXTRA.

SAVE TIME. WE COME TO YOU!

CONVENIENT
We come to you – saving you time and downtime.

RELIABLE
Quality workmanship you can count on.

PROFESSIONAL
Fully equipped mobile service with attention to detail.

FARM FOCUSED
We understand farming and what it takes.

KEEP YOUR FARM BIKES SAFE, RELIABLE & WORKING.

REDUCE RISK. PREVENT BREAKDOWNS. PROTECT YOUR PEOPLE.

SERVICING WE COVER:

- ✓ Engine Oil & Filter
- ✓ Air Filter
- ✓ Transmission & Diff Oils
- ✓ Greasing
- ✓ Brakes
- ✓ Steering & Suspension
- ✓ CV Boots & Drivetrain
- ✓ Drive Belt / CVT
- ✓ Battery & Electrical
- ✓ Cooling System
- ✓ Tyres & Wheels
- ✓ Lights & Indicators
- ✓ 4WD & Differential
- ✓ General Mechanical Check

ALL WORK COMPLETED TO MANUFACTURER SPECIFICATIONS

SAFETY CHECKS FOR PEACE OF MIND.

- **SAFE** — Fit for use
- **ATTENTION** — Repairs recommended
- **DO NOT OPERATE** — Until repaired

YOU GET A WRITTEN REPORT EVERY TIME!

MOBILE REPAIRS & BREAKDOWNS

- ✓ On-farm repairs
- ✓ Flat tyres
- ✓ Batteries
- ✓ Belts & CVT issues
- ✓ Brake & steering problems
- ✓ Electrical faults
- ✓ And more...

NO TIME TO GET TO TOWN? WE COME TO YOU!

FARM FLEET MAINTENANCE

Multiple bikes or side-by-sides? Ask about scheduled servicing and safety checks for your whole farm fleet.

- ✓ Planned servicing
- ✓ Safety inspections
- ✓ Digital service records
- ✓ Less downtime
- ✓ Better reliability

022 494 7458 | cambrown03@icloud.com | SERVICING GISBORNE, TAIRĀWHITI & THE WIDER EAST COAST

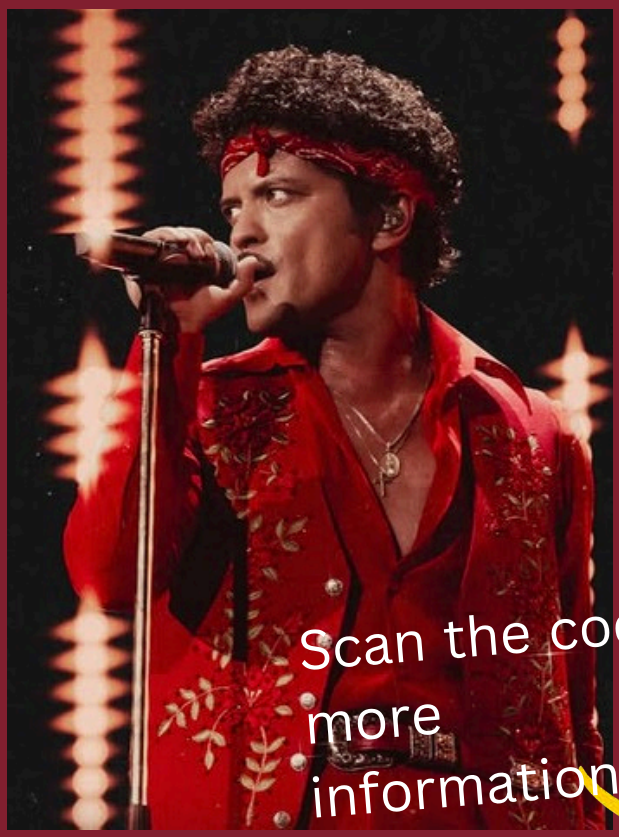
LOCAL. RELIABLE. FARM FOCUSED.

Win your chance to see

BRUNO MARS
THE ROMANTIC TOUR

LIVE in Auckland

+ anight'sstay at theRadissonRED
after the concert!



Tickets are available now:
$5 for 1 or
$12 for 3
Raffle closes 7th December!

Scan the code for more information!

All proceeds support
Taupo- Family Playcentre

https://give.playcentre.org.nz/raffle/taup-family-playcentre-bruno-mars-concert-ticket-raffle