



Matamata Intermediate

1st February 2022

Teena koutou katoa

As our first day rapidly approaches, I am sure we are all filled with mixed emotions. There will be excitement at the thought of returning to school to meet new friends and reconnect with old ones. The nervousness for our new students around what Intermediate is like and the changes they will experience, and then also anxiety and uncertainty around some of the requirements we are facing. Hopefully, information in this newsletter will help with some of this, but my main message today is that I want to assure you, as parents and caregivers, that we are so looking forward to having your children back at school. Our goal is to create an environment where learning and well being are the main focus. We are doing everything we can to make MIS a safe place and decisions we are making always hold the child at the centre.

Some decisions are made for us and we are required to follow mandates. One of these is obviously the wearing of masks. I have included more information below. If you have concerns or questions about anything happening at school, please ask. There are often mixed messages when people do not seek clarification and, although my goal is to communicate clearly with you, I may not answer all the questions you have. Please email or ring the office and this will be passed onto me.

As we begin the year, I wish to already thank those of you who have reached out and offered support. The challenges for this time are also relevant for my teachers, staff and their families.

One of the biggest challenges is not being able to meet you all in person and make the connections we would normally have. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, this will be able to happen but until then, we will enjoy getting to know your child. I will share what is happening at school on our Facebook page, if you wish to check in and see what is happening. I have also included below our forms of communication, so you can keep up to date with latest messages or notification.

Ngaa mihi nui
Debbie Currie

Vaccination Register

Our previous newsletter contained a link to our [Covid Response Plan](#) - please note that amendments have been made to this plan and we will NOT be gathering student covid vaccination information. We will still be asking parents, volunteering for things like camp, for their vaccination status. For further information on our privacy guidelines, please refer to SchoolDocs.

YEAR 7 BOOSTRIX and YEAR 8 HPV IMMUNISATION

In Year 7 students are offered a vaccine against tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough. This vaccine is called Boostrix. This is a booster to the vaccine administered to babies and young children. Here is a link to a [YouTube Video](#) explaining this vaccine which will be shown to students at school

Year 8 students are offered the HPV vaccine to protect against 9 types of HPV. Here is a link to a [YouTube Video](#) explaining this vaccine which will be shown to students at school.

Your child will come home with a consent form from the Public Health Nurse. All forms must be returned whether it is a consent or non-consent. Please be assured that NO immunisations will be administered without your consent.

INTER-INTERMEDIATE EVENTS

The decision has been made, that whilst we are working under the Red in the Covid - 19 Protection Framework (traffic light system) all Inter-Intermediate events will be postponed. Intermediate principals will meet later in the term to consider alternative options around some events and alternative options to enable us to continue offering opportunities for our students.

CAMP INFORMATION

It is with great disappointment that we have had to make the decision to postpone our camps in Term 1. Our decision is based on the safety of our students and staff. We are now putting a plan in place for camps in Term 4.

MASKS

When we return to school on Thursday, it is a requirement for all staff and students to wear a mask.

PLEASE SEND A MASK TO SCHOOL WITH YOUR CHILD

We realise this is not going to be easy (for both staff and students) and we will endeavour to carry out as much learning as possible, outside. When students are learning inside, they must wear their mask and teachers will provide regular breaks when they can go outside to remove their mask for a few minutes before returning inside the classroom

- If a medical exemption is granted, we would appreciate you sending a copy to our student reception or front office
- Face masks are required on all public transport, including school buses for students aged 12 and over
- **Appropriate face coverings:** *fitted snugly and sealed well around facial contours*. Single use, disposable masks (medical masks) and re-usable fabric masks with 3 layers are recommended. Dust mask and Bandanas (or similar, e.g. scarves) are not appropriate

COMMUNICATION AT MATAMATA INTERMEDIATE

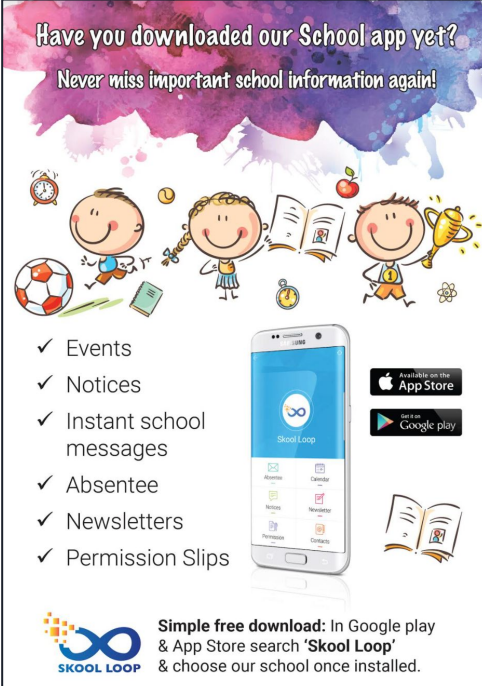
NEWSLETTER- our school newsletter comes out fortnightly. It is emailed to caregivers and uploaded into the Skool Loop App.

SKOOL LOOP - this is an app you download onto your phone (if you already have the app for a primary school, you can select a 2nd school). We use this app for sending out important or urgent notices, uploading the newsletter, you can use it to notify us if your child is going to be away and later in the year, for booking teacher/parents Learning Conferences.

STUDENT NOTICES - our student notices are on KAMAR which is our Student Management System. Details on how you access this, including your personalised password, will be emailed to you.

FACEBOOK - we post highlights, share successes and day to day updates on Facebook. Note: we do not use Facebook messaging as a form of 2 way communication.

EMAIL - If we have your current email address, you will receive the newsletter and contact with your classroom teacher, via email.



Have you downloaded our School app yet?
Never miss important school information again!

- ✓ Events
- ✓ Notices
- ✓ Instant school messages
- ✓ Absentee
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Permission Slips

Simple free download: In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.

REPORTING TO PARENTS 2022

Your child's PEP is their personalised school report. This document will be created and shared with them, to their School Google Account, during Term 1.

We want reporting to be meaningful and add value to student achievement, rather than just a summative statement. With this in mind, and assuming face to face meetings can go ahead, we have planned the following dates to meet with parents/caregivers. More details will be sent, closer to each date and bookings will be made via the Skool Loop app.

- 31st March: Whanaungatanga Meetings- 10min meeting with the teacher to check in with how your child has settled into Intermediate and identify learning goals for the year
- Learning Conferences - Wednesday 3rd August This meeting will follow on from the mid year report which will be available before this meeting
- Written reports - Wk 1 of Term 3 (digital) and then Wk 9 of Term 4 (printed)

Teachers are open to meeting at any time during the year. Please email them to organise a meeting if you wish to connect with them.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

THURSDAY
3RD FEBRUARY
8:50am - 3pm

REMEMBER TO BRING:

- Correct uniform (including PE gear) -see details below - please ensure all uniform items are labeled
- Stationery
- Mask
- Togs and towel (if your child is unable to swim, for medical reasons, please provide a note or email the classroom teacher)
- Drink bottle and lunch
- You address if attending bus assembly

Parents are welcome to walk their child to outside their classroom, but please do not enter and please wear a mask.

UNIFORM - Shoe Clarification

As mentioned in last weeks newsletter, students are expected to wear plain, fully black shoes with black socks or a black sandal which has a back strap. Slides, jandals or Birkenstock type shoes are not acceptable school shoes.

DEVICES AND PHONES

- Students are assigned with a school email address allowing them access to the Google Apps for Education Suite. This is an essential component of Digital Learning in our school to enable students to work individually and collaboratively in a safe online environment.
- Students are able to bring their own devices to school to use as a learning tool. A chromebook or HP Stream are ideal , cost effective options.
- Phones, if brought to school, must be handed into the teacher to be locked away as soon as the student arrives.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Subway delivers to Matamata Intermediate daily.



Log into subwayexpress.co.nz and you can select your school - please remember you include your child's name and room number so their lunch can be delivered to them.

When ordering with the SubwayExpress app, you need to have your orders in before 8am on the day of delivery.

SWIMMING

Swimming is an important part of our school curriculum, during term 1 and 4. It is expected that students bring their togs and towel to be involved in class swimming sessions.

- Lunchtime swim - Our school pool is open for a 'free' lunchtime swim. Students who choose to have a swim will have to sign in (for contact tracing purposes).
- We have made the decision to postpone school swimming sports until term 4.

MUSIC @ MIS

In the next few weeks, we will be sending out information around how to access music lessons at school and letting you know about the opportunities we offer in music.

Our contact teacher for music information is Beth McKay mrmckay@matamataint.school.nz

ABSENT?

What to do when your child is away from school



- Record your child's absence using the Skool Loop App. Fill in the required information and **submit before 9am**. *If you have children attending other schools, please ensure you are submitting your absences to the correct school.*
- Or call the office and leave a message on the Absentee line. Leave your child's name, room number and the reason for their absence.

If you inform your child's teacher of their absence please be sure to **still contact the office** by either of the methods mentioned above, the teacher is not always able to relay this information before the absentees are checked.

If the school receives no message regarding your child's absence a phone call will be made home to ensure your child is accounted for.