

# Room 9 MATARIKI Stories

I like Matariki because the stars sparkle in the night and the seven sisters are in the stars, and we go in the dark and we see the seven stars at the sky in the dark.

By Lailani



Matariki is a time of year for food to eat and to celebrate and to play games. The seven sisters are beautiful and we fly kites.

By Hannah

The Matariki stars are beautiful like Mrs Osborne and Mrs Cutler. And at night I look at the stars.

By Angel

The seven stars are blue and they are beautiful. And at Matariki we share food.

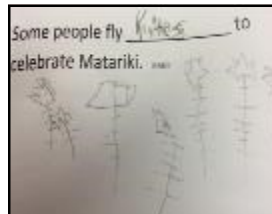
By Lucy

I celebrate Matariki and share food and fly kites and plant vegetables and have a feast and eat marshmallows.

By Mathew

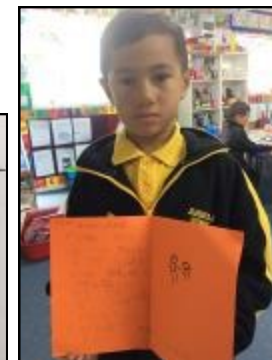
Matariki is telling you all about sharing food and flying kites too.

By Tamaturua



Matariki is a time to share food and play stick games. And look at the seven sisters in the sky. They are shiny and bright in the sky.

By Taylor



## AHIPARA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NGA KORERO O TE KURA O AHIPARA



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Thursday 30th June, 2016

Number 20

Dear Parents/Caregivers, Tena Koutou Katoa

### 1) Celebrating Success

This week's 'Celebrating Success' goes to **Haimz Leef**. Haimz has been selected for the Hokianga Taniwha squad. This year the annual Taniwha Shield Rugby Tournament will be hosted by Northern Wairoa, in Dargaville. It starts on the 12th July and runs to the 16th July. Congratulations Haimz on your selection.



### 2) Mid Year Reports

As mentioned in the last few newsletters, we will be holding our annual **Pupil/Parent/Teacher Report Interviews on Wednesday 6th July**. Interview times will start from 8:00am and will finish at 6:00pm. Parents will need to make alternative arrangements during the day as our teaching staff will not be available for normal classroom duties. We look forward for the opportunity to explain your child's report in depth with you and your child. We strongly recommend that you bring your child to the interview as they are the main stakeholder in the partnership that can ultimately effect positive change to their achievement levels. Students will also be taking an active role in this process and will be reporting on their progress of their learning. All pupils have been given an interview time sheet which needs to be returned to allocate a time for your interview. If you did not receive one of these, please contact the school office to request a time. If you are unable to attend on this day don't hesitate to contact your classroom teacher to make alternative arrangements. We are aiming for **100%** of our students sharing and celebrating their progress with their parents. As part of our community consultation, we will be asking you to complete a short survey about how we can improve at the finish of your interview. This will assist us with reviewing our programmes.

### 3) Uniforms

We have a collection of uniform clothing that has been handed into the school office. If your child has lost any uniform item please come in and check. We can't over emphasise the importance of ensuring that all clothing is clearly named so we can return lost items to the correct owners. Please ensure your child

comes to school in correct uniform. A reminder that our winter uniform of a polar fleece and a jacket are available for purchase at The Warehouse. If your child wears long sleeved clothing under their polo shirts could you please ensure that they are school colours. If children are wearing **plain BLACK** sweatshirts cardigan, jerseys, etc they will not be asked to remove them

#### 4) Medicines

We have a number of asthma inhalers and various medications held at school that belong to students and a number of these are now out of date. Could you please ensure that any medication in the sick bay is current and if your child no longer requires it, please collect it from the office.

#### 5) Cyber Safety and Digital Citizenship

As more and more children have access to social networks it is timely to think about how we can support them in a digital world.

Here are some tips.

Facebook requires users to enter their real birth date. If they're under 13 and truthful about their age, they won't be allowed to sign up. Just like communities in the physical world, no social networking site, virtual world, online game, or any other social-media service can provide a guarantee of 100% safety, Facebook included. Why? Because this is the social Web, and safety depends a great deal on users' behaviour toward one another.

Specific social networking risks include...

- Harassment or online bullying ("cyber bullying") on the part of your children or others.
- Posting information about themselves that: a) could be used to embarrass or manipulate them; b) could cause psychological harm; c) could be used by criminals to steal their identity or property or determine their physical location to cause physical harm.
- Damage to reputation or future prospects because of young people's own behaviour or that of their peers, unkind or angry posts, compromising photos or videos, or group conflict depicted in text and imagery.
- Spending too much time online, losing a sense of balance in their activities ("too much" is subjective, which is why parents need to be engaged).
- Exposure to inappropriate content, **it's about respect.**

It's also important to talk about the Golden Rule: treating others the way you want to be treated. This also applies to using new technologies. Make sure your teens know where to go for support if someone ever harasses them. Help them understand how to make responsible and safe choices about what they post, because anything they put online can be misinterpreted or taken out of context. Whatever you post, positive or negative, can affect your relationships with people, how they feel about you and what they might say about you to others. We all need to remember that we're interacting with people in social networking sites – not text and images – even though the text and images are much more visible than the people.

Because Facebook use is based on real names and identities, it's directly tied to "real

life" – in the case of young people, mostly school life and relationships. So, just as in offline life, children need their parents' help as they navigate both adolescence and the social Web.

You can help them understand...

- How important it is for their own online well-being to be mindful of what they say, share, and upload (as well as send on mobile phones)
- How smart it is to present themselves in a positive light online
- How much better their online experiences will be if they stay on good terms with others in their online as well as offline communities. "A Parents' Guide to Facebook" is online at [www.fbparents.org](http://www.fbparents.org)

#### 6) Matariki

Next **Tuesday 5th July**, we would like to invite all our kuia, kaumatua, grandparents to share our learning about Matariki. We envision this starting about 9.30 and finishing with a shared morning tea. Do watch out for a personal invitation from your mokopuna and as usual you are very welcome to join us.

#### 7) End of Term Dates

Next **Friday 8th July**, we complete Term Two and school will be closed for 2 weeks at the normal time. We reopen on **Monday 25th July**.

Nga Mihi  
Jackie Osborne  
Tumuaki/Principal

**Superhero Mufti Day**



**We welcome any comments about our school. We are continually striving to improve and value any ideas on how to do so.**