

## INTRODUCING Matangi School Board Member

**Name:** Chris Ballantyne

**Where were you born?** Edinburgh, Scotland

**Tell us about your family:** My wife Emma and I have three children at the school, Olivia (Kahikatea 1), Sam (Kahikatea 2) and Hugh (Pohutukawa Pod) - we also have a pet Kunekune - Pickles!

The family at Tayto Park - Ireland's potato theme park (of course), earlier this year.



**Current occupation?** Infrastructure Planner, currently (among other things) I'm leading the planning of a new crossing of the Waitemata Harbour in Auckland - NZ's largest ever infrastructure project.

**Favourite job that you have ever had:** Travel Journalist - on my OE I prepared a travel journal for a website documenting my friend and my travels around SE Asia, Oceania, North and South America!

**What do you think the best thing is about living in Matangi?** Being in the country with a great community and still being close to the good things about town without having to live there.

**Do you have a favourite place in NZ or around the world you have visited and why?** My favourite place in NZ is my gully at home in Matangi.

**What were you like in primary school?** I was a pretty good little boy (as I recall), though I did respond in writing to my teacher's comments on my homework which was apparently quite funny!

**What three words would you use to best describe yourself** - energetic, inquisitive and direct.

**If you could be any animal in the world, what animal would you be and why?** An eagle, the idea of soaring through the skies is pretty exciting.

**And finally, where would you go in a time machine?** I'd have to go into the future to see how it all turned out - did we populate the universe? Did we invent the teleporter? Answering questions like that.