

Waitoki School NEWSLETTER

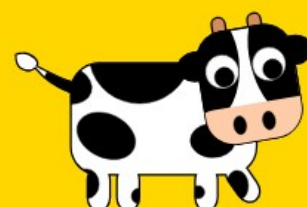
TERM 1

21ST MARCH 2025



WAITOKI
WS
SCHOOL

1119 Kahikatea Flat Road
Waitoki, Auckland
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admin@waitoki.school.nz
www.waitoki.school.nz



Waitoki School

Adaptive, curious,
creative lifelong
learners.



Grit
Ownership
Aroha
Teamwork

Tēnā koutou Whānau,

We have been celebrating more student success over the past two weeks. Following on from their success at the Kaipara swimming sports, two students, **Danielle Simpson** and **Theo McDowell** went on to represent Waitoki School and compete in the Northwest Schools Swimming Championships at Westwave on Monday 17th March. Well done to Theo and Danielle, we are all proud of you.



As part of their science inquiry learning, the Junior students in Y0 - Y3 are all going on an EOTC visit to **Kelly Tarltons** on **Wednesday 26th March**. The focus of the trip will be to learn more about the impact of pollution on marine animals. In addition to having time to explore the sealife at Kelly Tarltons, the students will all have a classroom session with one of their educators. I am looking forward to hearing all about it when they return to school.

On Wednesday 19th March, Mr Hillman took our eight Herd Leaders to the **GRIP leadership conference** in Browns Bay. The students had a great day and learnt about the responsibilities of a student leader, developing resilience as a leader of a herd, as well as games they could play with younger students. Our tamariki found the conference beneficial for developing their leadership skills.

As part of the Health and PE curriculum and to support student well-being, Pat Fruean, a former Board member and Paisley's Poppa, has volunteered to come into school and run the **High Intensity Impact Training (HIIT)** programme with all our Y4 - Y8 students. The HIIT programme involves meditation, short bursts of intense exercise to music, flexibility, form and technique. Each of the senior classes are taking part in a bi-weekly 25 minute long session. Chelsea Brown, our DP, is attending all of these sessions along with the class teachers. Pat is also doing some sports coaching at lunchtime as well. Thank you Pat for your support of our tamariki and kura.

The professional learning and development focus for teachers at Waitoki for 2025 is the implementation of the refreshed English and Maths curriculum documents. To support this mahi, we will be holding two Ministry and Board approved teacher only days. The first one will be on **Tuesday 3rd June**, the day after King's Birthday holiday, and the other on **Tuesday 28th October**, the day after Labour day. School will be closed for instruction on both of these dates.

I am sure you will have noticed the positive changes to the gardens as you walk through the school grounds. The planter boxes have been painted, the wooden walkways water blasted and the paving slabs have been lifted in preparation for being them to be relaid once the ground has been levelled. Pete and his team were at school again last weekend with their machines leveling the uneven ground in preparation for redefining the pebble paths and planting some grass seed. The gardens are starting to take shape and teachers have already noticed that the students are using this area of the school much more since the work has begun. I am excited to see the finished results and to watch our tamariki making more use of the sensory learning garden.

Please note, there is a change of time for tomorrow's (Friday 21st March) school assembly. It will be at the earlier time of **8.45am** in the hall. Tea and coffee are available so come along and help yourself to a cuppa. I hope to see you there.

Enjoy your weekend.

Ngā mihi nui
Jules McCourt



Term dates 2025:

Term 1—Mon 3rd February 2025 to Fri 11th April 2025

Term 2—Mon 28th April 2025 to Fri 27th June 2025

Term 3—Mon 14th July 2025—Fri 19th September 2025

Term 4—Mon 6th October 2025—Tues 16th December 2025

Upcoming events to add to your diary:

26 March:	Junior Y1-3 EOTC Trip to Kelly Tarltons
31 March:	Y5 & Y6 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)
7 April:	Y7& Y8 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)
10 April:	William Pike Challenge –Tree Adventures programme Y7-8
11 April:	Easter Hat Decorating Competition.
11 April:	End of Term 1.
2 May :	Colour Run 1pm onwards.
7 May:	School Photos.
27-30 May:	Senior Camp at Lakewood Lodge, Huntly.
3 June:	School Closed for Teacher Only Day
29 July:	Auckland (Kumeu) Junior Tough Guy and Gal Challenge. (Kumeu Showgrounds) information to follow.

Fundraising Team Update:

Easter Hat Decorating Competition

Get ready for some end of term fun with our Easter Hat Decorating competition on Friday 11 April—a great way to wrap up the Term.

Harcourts Sponsored Prize: A special prize will be provided by Harcourts for the event.

Harcourts Coffee and Hot Chocolate van will be onsite.



Colour Run

Mark your calendars for Friday, 2nd May. Kick off Term 2 with a splash of colour. This fun-filled event is a great way to celebrate while raising funds for the school. Keep an eye out for more details coming soon!



Watch this space ! Coming up

Trivia Night in July

Sip, Swap and shop In September.

Summer Sports

Summer sports inter school sports are coming up:

31 March: Y5 & Y6 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)

7 April: Y7& Y8 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)

Please see the notice issued on Skool Loop and complete your consent forms to enable your child your attend. All students must be wearing a Waitoki School T shirt.

Welcome:

We are so excited to welcome our new families to our kura! Please give a warm Waitoki welcome if you see any of our new students and parents. Our new student is Lennox.



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2025 Kaipara Schools Swimming Sports Results:



Last Monday we had 17 year 5 - 8 tamariki head off to Kaipara College to represent Waitoki in the Kaipara Schools Swimming Sports. They gave it their all and showed lots of grit and bravery - tu meke Waitoki! A huge thank you to our amazing whānau for their support — we appreciate your mahi! Special congratulations to our finalists for their outstanding results:

Theo McDowell (Y7) – 2nd in Freestyle & Butterfly
Jordan Hefer (Y6) - 2nd in Breaststroke
Eva Nutsford (Y6) - 3rd in Butterfly
Danielle Simpson (Y6) 3rd in Backstroke
Erin Hefer (Y5) - 2nd in Butterfly and Breaststroke
Ka rawe, team! We're so proud of you all!



Theo and Danielle went on to represent the school in the Northwest Schools Swimming Championships. We are so proud of you all.

Skool Loop App

Please make sure that you download the Skool Loop app on your phone if you haven't already, and subscribe to any relevant groups. To download the free app, find it in to your Play store or App store and search for Waitoki School. To subscribe to groups, go in to Settings > Subscribe to Groups > Select your child's teacher, and any other groups you are interested in receiving notifications for e.g. sport.

EZ Lunch Term 1 Rewards Campaign :Here's how it works:

EZ lunch orders are up and running! We have sushi Wednesdays and Thursdays, and Pita Pitt Fridays. If you are keen to take the stress out of lunches, visit ezlunch.co.nz, and click on Order Lunch. Remember to order before 9am on the day! Every parent who orders an ezlunch goes into a weekly draw to win **\$100 Kindo Credit** for themselves **AND** \$100 for your school. Starts Monday 10 February 2025 and runs through to Friday 11 April 2025. Plus, all orders automatically enter the **Grand Prize Draw** for a **\$1,000 JB Hi-Fi Voucher + \$500 for their school!** Thank you to JB Hi-Fi !

COMMUNITY NEWS

World Dance Crew Championship—Offer for Schools

As you will know we're thrilled to bring the **World Dance Crew Championship** to Auckland for the very first time! This Aotearoa-owned major event will take place at **Due Drop Events Centre, Manukau, from April 14th – 19th 2025**, showcasing the world's best dance crews—including our own local legends The Royal Family & ID CO—as they compete against top teams from the US, the Philippines, and beyond. Now further **20% off** tickets. Offer valid until **30th March**. Use code **SCHOOL20** via checkout at [Eventfinda](https://www.eventfinda.co.nz)



Important Information:

Disabled Parking Spaces

Please do not park in the disabled parking spaces in the carpark unless you have a permit. We have parents who need to use the spaces at pick up/drop off time. Thank you.

Toys

We have noticed the amount of toys coming to school has increased and some students are starting to trade toys. We ask that toys stay at home please as it does impact on learning time if we are looking for misplaced items.

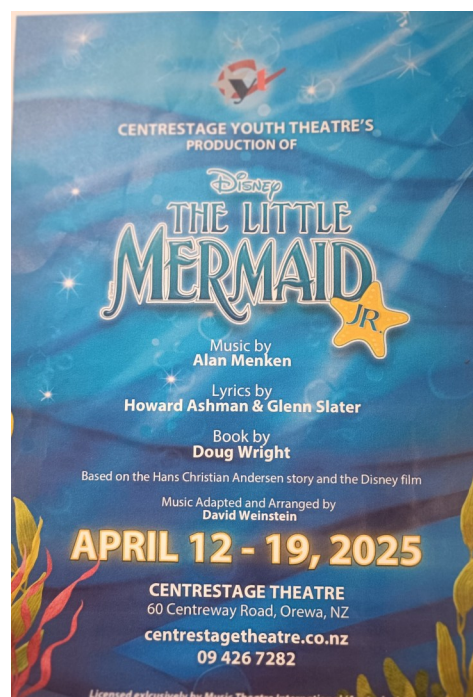
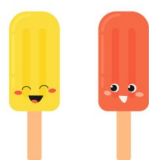


Reminder: Cellphones and Other Personal Digital Devices

Our approach to cellphones and other personal digital devices supports student engagement and achievement. Personal digital devices include cell phones, and other devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartwatches. Devices that are part of a school-approved Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) programme have separate conditions for use. To comply with government regulations, we ensure students do not use personal devices during school hours, including break times.

Ice Block Fridays

Every Friday lunchtime, during Term 1, the Senior School will be selling ice blocks to fundraise for much needed resources in the Senior School. There will be two options: \$1 ice blocks or \$2 ice blocks, with different flavours available. Your child can either bring coins on the day, or you can prepay for the term at the office. (\$10 or \$20“packages”).



Please support these local businesses



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Years 3-6



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