

Waitoki School NEWSLETTER

TERM 2

5 MAY 2025



WAITOKI
VS
SCHOOL

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Waitoki, Auckland
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www.waitoki.school.nz

2025
Colour Run

Waitoki School

Adaptive, curious,
creative lifelong
learners.



Grit
Ownership
Aroha
Teamwork

Tēnā koutou Whānau,

Welcome back for Term 2. It has definitely started with a hiss and a roar. Last Thursday we hosted the Kaipara Kāhui ako **Wananga**. We welcomed over 100 tamariki from all the schools in our cluster for a day of waiata and connecting with others. Our kapa haka group, led by Mr A, did an excellent job of welcoming visitors to our kura with a heart warming whakatau. I was very proud of our Waitoki students and how well they represented us.

Rain did not stop play as the sun shone brightly on our most colourful day of the year last Friday. The students and teachers had an absolute blast tackling the obstacle course whilst getting covered in paint as part of the **Colour Run**. As well as being heaps of fun, we raised over **\$8290** which will be used to enhance the play spaces around our school. Many thanks for getting behind this fundraiser and supporting our kids with sponsorship. Special thanks to Mel and Kirsty for all their organisation, and thanks to those parents who pulled together and helped out on the day. We also really appreciate the support of Harcourts and loved the free coffee and ice cream cones. Also thank you to Pak n Save for supporting the class prizes.

Well Done to our Winning Classes who were:

1st: Rūma Toru

2nd: Rūma Whitu

Joint 3rd: Rūma Waru and Wha

As soon as one great event is over, the fundraising team is already busy planning for the next one! Plans are afoot for a **school disco** for all students on **Friday 13th June**. And it is not just the children who get to have all the fun. The team are busy preparing for an adults only **Trivia quiz night** on **Friday 18th July** and we are holding another **“Sip, swap, shop”** evening for the ladies on **Friday 5th September**. More details about all of these events will follow but please keep the dates free so that you can come along and connect with others in our school community.

We place high value on working in partnership with the families of our learners and we are keen to create opportunities for you to be actively engaged in your children’s school life. Therefore, we would like to invite you along for a **Mothers Day celebration** on **Friday 9th May** at **1pm** in the school hall. Along with celebrating all of our lovely mums, there will be a light afternoon tea served featuring baking from the **Garden to Table** programme.

Due to Y7 & Y8 Tech at Kaipara College and a wide range of things happening each Friday during Term 2, we have decided to hold our bi-weekly assemblies on Monday mornings for the rest of this term. Our next **school assembly** will be held in the school hall at the new time of **8.45am** on **Monday 12th May**. Tea and coffee will be available, so please come along and enjoy a cuppa while celebrating our students’ achievements.

We will be holding an **open morning** on **Tuesday 13th May** from **9am - 10.30am**. This is an opportunity for families to come along and discover what makes Waitoki School a great place for our students to learn and grow. You will be able to look around all our classrooms, meet teachers and see our tamariki’s learning in action. Afterwards, you are invited to join us in the school hall for morning tea and an informal chat with classroom teachers. Everyone is welcome to come along.

As part of their William Pike Challenge community service, our intermediate students are in the process of organising **Pink Shirt Day**. This will be held on **Thursday 15th May**, a day earlier than most schools, as Waitoki is closed for a Maths curriculum **Teacher only day** on **Friday 16th May**. Our intermediate students will be sharing more about Pink Shirt Day shortly.

Later on in the term we will be holding a **Matariki celebration** on **Thursday 19th June**. Mr A, Serena and Becky have been busy behind the scenes organising this so please save the date as we would love to see you there.

Ngā mihi nui

Jules McCourt

Term dates 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:

7 May:	School Photos
9 May:	Mother Day Celebration 1pm
12 May:	Whole School Assembly 8.45am
12 –18 May:	Road Safety Week
13 May:	School Open Day 9am
14 May:	Waitoki School Board Meeting 6.30pm
15 May:	Pink Shirt Day
16 May:	School Closed for Teacher Only Day
27-30 May:	Senior Camp at Lakewood Lodge, Huntly
2 June:	School Closed Kings Birthday
3 June:	School Now Open
13 June:	School Disco
19 June:	Matariki Celebration
18 July:	Trivia Night
29 July:	Auckland (Kumeu) Junior Tough Guy and Gal Challenge (Kumeu Showgrounds) information to follow
25 August:	School Closed for Teacher Only Day
5 September:	Sip, swap, shop at 7pm
28 October:	School Closed for Teacher Only Day

School Photos

All students present on 7/5/2025 will have their Class and Individual photos taken by Capture Photography. Sibling photos will be taken in the afternoon. If you would like a sibling photo taken please complete the form already sent out or email the office.

Welcome:

We are so excited to welcome so many new families to our kura! Please give a warm Waitoki welcome if you see any of our new students and parents over the next few



Good Luck Waitoki Sports Teams :

Wishing our Waitoki School sports teams all the very best for the Winter 2025 season.

Hockey

Defenders (Year 1 & 2 team)

Hot Shots (Year 5 & 6 team)

Netball

Gems (Year 5 team)

Diamonds (Year 5 & 6 team)

Also a huge **THANK YOU** to our Coaches, Managers, Umpires and Parents, who have volunteered their time and support.

Have a great season Go Waitoki!

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creative lifelong
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Grit
Ownership
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THANK YOU PETE AND YOUR AMAZING TEAM

School Gardens

What a difference one term makes! Wow, **Pete Reelick** and his team have continued to work on our school gardens over the past month and the changes that have happened are huge. The gardens have really begun to take shape now and Pete's vision for an attractive, engaging space for our students to learn and play has really come to life. There have been new pathways created, many new trees, plants and shrubs planted, areas lawned, a planter box built and fruit trees that required more space have been repositioned. Pete is currently working on Verde Barton's memorial garden and we are looking forward to seeing this when it is completed. I continue to be amazed by Pete's hard work, generosity and dedication to making our school a much more attractive space for our children to grow. He has not only given up hours of his time at weekends and during evenings, he has also provided all the machinery, materials, trees, plants, shrubs, bark, pebbles, and a team of workers at absolutely **no cost to the school**. We are extremely grateful and cannot thank Pete enough for all that he has done for our Waitoki School community.

We have invited Pete to our assembly on Monday 26 May so that we can thank him Waitoki Style.



Proud supporter of your
school garden and green space.

pete's
LANDSCAPING

0274 363 591

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ANZAC DAY

A huge Thank you to Dave Hogg our hardworking caretaker who invited two of his colleagues from the services to talk to our Year 4-8 students about Anzac Day and what it means to them.



Important Information:

Pool keys:

We have come to the end of another Summer season and we hope our pool keyholders have enjoyed the use of the facility over the Summer. As the School Pool has now closed please return your pool key with your bank account number by 31st May for a refund of the bond.

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.

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.



Enrolment Information: We have already begun the process for 2026 enrolments. If you live out of zone (OOZ) and have a younger child due to start school in 2026 you will need to complete an OOZ application form. Please pop into the office and see either Sarah or Sue to collect one. We do still have a few OOZ spaces left for 2025 if you are wanting to enroll your child this year.

EZ Lunch Term 2:

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!

Yummy Stickers

Don't forget to collect your yummy stickers which earn us points to purchase sports equipment at the end of the year. The office have collection pages for the stickers.



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.

Medical updates

This is just a reminder to please let the office team know if your child requires any medicine on either a once off or regular basis. This includes asthma inhalers, strepsils etc. We ask that children do not keep any medication in their school bags, and ensure it is kept in the sick bay. Forms are available for you to fill in to let us know how to look after your child and administer the medication.

Congratulations

We love to celebrate our tamariki's achievements! If your child has done something awesome outside of school, please let us know by emailing : admin@waitoki.school.nz



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Coming Up Soon:

Fundraising Team Update:

MOTHER'S DAY



FRIDAY 9 MAY, 2025

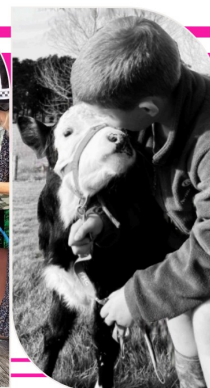
We invite all Mother figures to our Mother's Day celebration.

Where: School Hall
When: Friday 9 May, 1.15pm
What: Children's presentations and songs followed by a light afternoon tea

Follow us on Facebook

[waitokischool](https://www.facebook.com/waitokischool)

and don't forget to
LOVE and SHARE our posts too!



WAITOKI SCHOOL



TRIVIA Night

Friday July 18th at 7pm

Supporting the purchase of Structured Literacy Games

Tickets are on sale from 9th June

Get a team of between 6-8 adults together, give yourselves an outrageous team name and secure your table by contacting the office.
Individual ticket sales are also welcome.

There will be half time games and answer buying so don't forget your gold coins.
BYO Drinks and Food. Dressing up is encouraged but not essential.

Will you win the Cottrill Cup and be crowned the Winners?

\$15 Each

admin@waitoki.school.nz
09 420 5244

Harcourts Cooper & Co Best Dressed is kindly sponsored by Tracey Howe

Sip, Swap, Shop

Friday 5th September | 7pm | Waitoki School

Look in the date ladies!

The seasons are changing and so is your wardrobe so we have the perfect event for you coming up.

If you're having a clean out over the next couple of months please keep any gently worn and washed ladies clothing as we will be taking donations from July.

Ladies accessories like belts and scarves are also appreciated.

Please share with your friends and family too.

More details about this event will be announced in Term 2.
<https://www.facebook.com/waitokischoolevents>

COMMUNITY NEWS

South Kaipara F.C. have been offering free football sessions for the community at Rautawhiri Park since last year. These sessions aim to encourage kids to step away from screens, engage in physical activities, socialize, and build new friendships. This winter, we're making a slight change. Our football sessions will now run from May 22nd to August 28th, every Tuesday from 3:45 to 4:45 PM, at Sinclair Park in Kaukapakapa—just a short 7-minute drive from Helensville. These sessions are open to children aged 5–12. Registration is open until May 9th and can be done through our website at www.southkaiparaafc.co.nz. The sessions are completely free, offering an opportunity for the kids to create unforgettable memories. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out or visit our social channels.



WAITOKI SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Come and discover what makes Waitoki School a welcoming place to learn and grow. Tour our classrooms, meet our dedicated kaiako and see our tamariki in action. Whether you're a current parent, new to the area or are looking for the right fit for your child, we'd love to show you around.

**TUESDAY 13TH MAY
9AM - 10AM**

www.waitoki.school.nz

1119 Kahikatea Flat Road,
Waitoki

Gently Loved Markets



Kumeu Community Centre
Sunday 18th May • 10am - 1pm

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Te Tāhuhu o
te Mātauranga
Ministry of Education



Announcement of webspace for parents and whānau

Priority 1: Establishing a knowledge-rich curriculum grounded in the science of learning

4 May, 2025

The Minister of Education launched a new and informative webspace for parents and whānau today, designed to help them support children's learning at home and strengthening the relationship between families, schools and kura.

What is the new webspace and what does it include?

The Parent Portal is an online platform that provides parents and whānau with easy-to-use resources and tools to support their child's education at home. It allows them to work in partnership with their school or kura and to keep informed about what their child is learning, by including:

- **Year-by-year Curriculum Learning Guides:** parent-friendly versions of both The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa, detailing what children are learning, why it's important, and when they'll be learning it.
- **Practice activities:** activities that parents and whānau can use to support their child's learning at home, such as phonics cards with audio files to model correct sounds.
- **Informative videos and resources:** videos explaining new assessments like the Phonics Checks and Hihira Weteoro, which help identify additional support a child might need, and resources to help parents prepare for the first day of school and parent-teacher interviews.



The Parent Portal can be accessed here:

<https://www.education.govt.nz/your-childs-learning>

Why is it important?

This new webspace aims to create a more transparent and supportive educational experience for both students and their whānau. It is designed to support every child's learning journey by offering tools and resources that make it easier for parents and whānau to help with their education, at home and at school.

It enhances communication between parents, whānau, teachers, schools and kura, ensuring everyone is on the same page about student progress. Additionally, it provides parents and whānau with the knowledge and resources needed to actively participate in their child's education, meaning they can complement it with learning at home and have meaningful conversations with teachers and kaiako.

How will schools and kura benefit?

- Engaged and informed parents and whānau can play a crucial role in supporting the education of their child, which in turn benefits schools and kura by creating a more supportive, collaborative, and effective learning environment.
 - Parents and whānau can now better support their child's learning at home, reinforcing what is taught in school and kura, and supporting their children to make progress in line with the National Curriculum.
 - Strengthening relationships and partnering with parents and whānau can lead to improved academic outcomes for children.
-

What's next?

The Parent Portal will be regularly updated with the latest information. This ensures that parents and whānau will always have access to the most current information about what their child is learning. We will provide updates on new curriculum content and additional resources or activities that can support their child's education. Stay tuned for these updates to keep whānau informed and engaged in their children's learning journeys.



Check out the latest episode of the *School Shorts* podcast.

Join the Minister of Education, Erica Stanford, and Melissa Chan-Green as they discuss the Parent Portal:

<https://www.schoolshorts.com/podcast>

For schools and kura

We encourage you to share the Parent Portal with your community.

You could do this by:

- providing the link to parents and whānau of new school starters
- adding a link to your website and/or Facebook page
- including a link in your newsletter
- mentioning the portal at parent/teacher interviews.