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Waitoki School NEWSLETTER

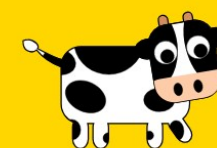
TERM 1

22 FEBRUARY 2024



WAITOKI
VS
SCHOOL

1119 Kahikatea Flat Road
Waitoki, Auckland
09 420 5244
admin@waitoki.school.nz
www.waitoki.school.nz



Waitoki School

Adaptive, curious,
creative lifelong
learners.

Grit - Niwaha

Waitoki School believes our inclination to revere natural talent is misguided; in terms of achievement, the effort we put in and our reaction to set-backs count for far more. Grit is something that can be learned and offers a new formula for individual and collective success.

Tēnā koutou Whanau,

The first two weeks have flown by with a lot of things happening at Waitoki School. Our Y6 students have been busy preparing for camp as they are off to Peter Snell Youth Village for three days next week, from 26th - 28th February. It will be a packed programme of activities including archery, a huge water slide, tobogganing, bivouac, the initiative course, rainbow tag, and camp fires. This is a fabulous opportunity for our students to experience new things and operate outside their comfort zone.

The Y7 & Y8 students have their first William Pike Challenge (WPC) for 2024 at Vector Wero for whitewater rafting on 6th March as well as a supermarket trip on Thursday 29th February. As part of their preparation for our centenary, all the Y0 - Y3 students are going to the Pioneer Village in Silverdale during Week 6. More information about the Y0 - 3 trip to follow. We are looking forward to hearing all about our students' adventures when they return to school.

Parent, student, and teacher three way conferences to discuss your child's progress and set learning goals are being held on **Tuesday 5th March**. School will close at 12pm and 15 minute interviews will be held from **12.30pm - 7.30pm**. You can book your interview time via the Skool Loop app under 'Bookings.' Select your child's teacher, the date and then choose an available time slot. If you need help with the Skool Loop app, please pop into the office and see either Emma or Claire.

On **Thursday 14th March at 1.30pm** we will be holding a special ceremony to unveil the bench seat and plaque in memory of Verde Barton, a cherished teacher, colleague, friend and parent of Waitoki School who passed away last year. You are most welcome to join us for the ceremony and then afterwards you are invited for a light afternoon tea in the school hall.

Progress is being made with the library renovations. The wall coverings are almost complete (after a slight

hitch) and are due to be finished by the end of next week. The new furniture arrived this week so we can see this new space is starting to take shape. We are very grateful for the fundraising efforts of the wider school community last year because we know this would not be possible without your help. Fundraising events at the end of 2023 have also paid for 24 new chromebooks and helped to buy Vex Robotics equipment. Many thanks for your continued support of Waitoki School.

Serena and Becky have been busy working behind the scenes planning lots of things for our Centenary celebration on **Saturday 6th April** from **1pm - 5pm**, including guest speakers, guided tours, performances, sharing student learning, afternoon tea with a birthday cake, a time capsule and tree planting. If you would like to attend our 100 Year celebration, please register with the office at admin@waitoki.school.nz or call the school office 09 420 5244. Please feel free to share details of this event with any past pupils or their families who you think would be interested in attending.

Lastly, good luck to all the participants for the Helensville A&P show this Saturday. If you are free this weekend, please go and support our Waitoki participants! Some of our classes also created Farmer art work which will be on display.

Ngā mihi nui
Jules McCourt

Welcome/Haere mai:

We are so excited to welcome Olly to the Waitoki whanau this week, starting in the New Entrants room.

We are also excited to say welcome back to Eden in Year 7.



Upcoming events to add to your diary:

Term dates:

Term 1 – Wed 7 Feb 2024 to Fri 12 April 2024

Term 2 – Mon 29 April 2024 to Fri 5 July 2024

Term 3 – Mon 22 July 2024 to Fri 27 Sept 2024

Term 4 – Mon 14 Oct 2024 to Thurs 19 Dec 2024

Bi-weekly Assemblies: Fridays at 1.15pm - Next assembly is Fri 1st March

Year 6 Camp—Mon 26th Feb—Wed 28th Feb

Scouts Water Safety (Pool closed) - Mon 4th & Tues 5th March closed from 5pm onwards

Parent/Student/Teacher Goal Setting: Tues 5th March 12.30pm—7.30pm (school closes at 12pm)

Year 7 & 8 Vector Wero Whitewater trip—Wed 6th March

Country Fair Committee meeting - Thurs 7th March 2.45pm for **ALL** those interested (in Becky's class). Many hands make light work!

Kaipara Cluster Swimming Sports —Mon 11th March (TBC)

Easter —29th March—2nd April (school closed)

Parent info evening—Wed 3rd April 6pm—7pm. Talking about Zones of Regulation with the RTLB.

100 Year Celebration—Sat 6th April 1pm—5pm

In other news

Ice Block Fridays

Just a reminder that every Friday lunchtime, during Term 1, the Senior School are selling ice blocks. There are 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 remainder of the term at the office.

Dog poo!

We've had multiple incidents where dogs have been brought onsite after school hours and left poo by the classrooms and areas where children play. If you're bringing your dog onsite, please make sure you're picking up after them. Thank you for your understanding.

Facebook page

Please head on to Facebook and give our school page a follow. We will be using the page more this year, posting celebrations, notifications and event alerts.

Extra clothes

Please make sure you pack an extra pair of clothes in your child's bag, just in case there is any muddy or wet play.

Sports

Waitoki School Swimming Sports Day

We will be holding our Waitoki School Swimming Sports event in preparation for Kaipara Cluster Swimming Sports. There will be a sausage sizzle and ice blocks for sale.

- **10.25am**—Years 1—3 (Have a Go events)
- **11.15am**—Year 4—8 races

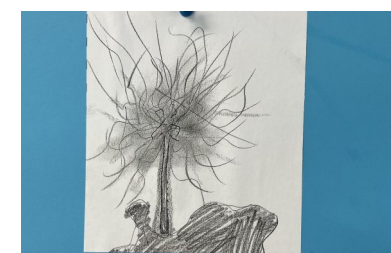
Please note—these are approximate times only. More info to come soon once the date has been confirmed with the cluster.

Winter Sports

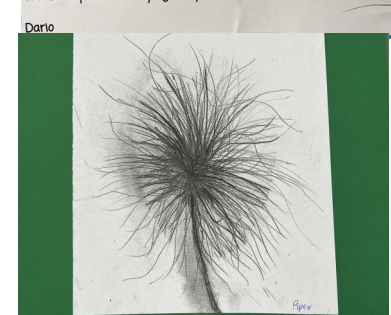
In the next couple of weeks, we will start asking for registrations for Winter Sports (Hockey & Netball). Please make sure you keep your eye out for any Skool Loop notifications. Make sure you're signed up to the groups in Skool Loop as well.

Student corner

Mrs Selfe's Year 7 class have been practicing their creative writing and observation skills. This week, they focused on native coastal plants. Here a few awesome examples from Dario, Ruben, and Piper.

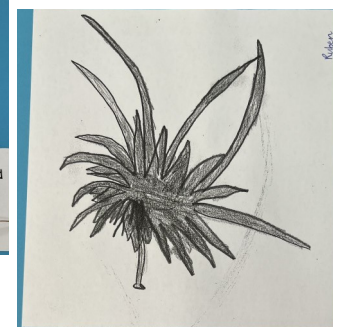


Poking out of the dunes as their silly spikes shiver in the wind they are sharp and scary but also sturdy and furry. They wave in the wind as they tumble down the beach their tendrils poking into the sand 1000s of spinifex are flying everywhere.



The graceful plant releases itself from the dune. Its spiky end is engulfed in lightweight sand. The sturdy yet delicate structure tumbles down the beach. Its speed determined by the power of mother nature.

By Piper



Sandy yellow tendrils blowing in the breeze
As bright as the sun
With roots very deep
Their stalks frail
With golden tails
On top of dunes of sand
The spinifex grows.

By Rubenk