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Waitoki School NEWSLETTER

TERM 1

22 MARCH 2024



Waitoki School

Adaptive, curious, creative lifelong learners.



Grit Ownership Aroha Teamwork

Tēnā koutou Whanau,

I am pleased to announce that we have appointed a new teacher for Ruma Whitu. Ms. Taylor Dunn will be joining the Waitoki Whānau from Term 2. Taylor completed her final practicum this term in Ruma Waru with Mrs Minton and has now completed her Bachelor of Education with AUT. Taylor has fitted into our team and wider community seamlessly, and connected really well with students and their families when she attended the Year 6 camp in February. I know Taylor will be an excellent fit for both the students in Ruma Whitu, and with the wider Waitoki School community. Taylor's familiarity with the school as well as the children in Ruma Whitu, will help to ensure a seamless transition from the wonderful Mrs Green. Trudi will maintain her connection with Ruma Whitu as she will still be their teacher for one day per week covering Taylor's release day.

Last week our Y1 - Y3 students went to the Pioneer Village at Silverdale to compare schools in the past with going to school nowadays as part of their learning related to our Centenary celebration on **Saturday 6th April** from **1pm - 5pm.**

The Kapa Haka groups and the choir have also been busy practicing their performances so it should be a great celebration. Reminder, if you would like to attend, for catering purposes, we need you to register as soon as possible either by completing the Google form (Survey link: https://

<u>forms.gle/6h5ZbvojPw7un1xu9</u>) or by emailing Claire Nolan <u>admin@waitoki.school.nz</u>

It is fabulous being part of the Kaipara Kahui Ako cluster of schools as this gives our tamariki the opportunity to experience new things, connect with other learners and compete against other local students. Last week 19 Y5 - Y8 students represented Waitoki School at Kaipara College for swimming sports. Next week all our Y5 - Y8 students will be involved in the Kaipara Kahui Ako Summer Sports at Rautawhiri Park and then after the April school holidays the Kahui Ako Wānanga

is being held at Waitoki School. Our learners greatly benefit from these additional opportunities and experiences.

Last year we consulted with the students, staff and parents about the learning opportunities and experiences they would like to see in the Intermediate area of Waitoki School. The most important aspects identified included school camp, the William Pike Challenge, going to Tech at Kaipara College, leadership opportunities, EOTC & school trips, Robotics, performing arts and attending AIMs Games. This year, it has been our mission to ensure that we provide all of the above along with delivering the New Zealand curriculum at the Y7 & Y8 level. Therefore, I am delighted to announce that for the first time ever in Waitoki School's history, we have a squad of 12 Y7 & Y8 students off to Tauranga from 7th -13th September to represent Waitoki School at AIMs games. This is a fabulous opportunity for our tamariki so thank you Katrina Selfe for working hard behind the scenes to make this happen.

Thank you to the people who were able to make our working bee last Sunday. We were a select few but made a difference to our school environment by painting the fence in the car park area of the school. We have a second working bee this Sunday (24th March) from 10am - 12pm so if you have a couple of spare hours it would be great to have your help. Please contact the school office to register your interest.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ngā mihi nui Jules McCourt

Welcome / Nau mai haere mai:

We were so excited to welcome Alex to the Waitoki whanau this week starting in the Year 4 room. We hope you've had a wonderful first week Alex!



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 (no assembly on Fri 29th March)

Working Bee Part 2—Sun 24th March 10am – 12pm

Junior School Grandparents Day—Mon 25th March 8.30am—11am (Grandparents of Juniors only)

Yr 5 & 6 Summer Sports—Mon 25th March at Rautawhiri Park. The Save Day is Tues 26th March.

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

Easter Egg Decorating Competition—Please bring in entries on Wed 3rd April

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

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

BOT meeting—Wed 10th April 6.30pm—8.30pm

Yr 7 & 8 Zespiri AIMS Games — 7th—13th September

In other news

Term 1 Working Bee Part 2

Please join us for the second of our two shorter Term 1 Working Bees on Sunday 24th March from 10 am–12pm. Bring a good pair of gloves and suitable footwear! Please pre-register via email to admin@waitoki.school.nz.

Easter Egg Decorating Competition



Skool Loop—Subscribing to groups

Please ensure you receive all the relevant notices and permissions in Skool Loop by clicking on Settings > Subscribe to Groups > Select the relevant group/teacher

Sports

We're inching closer to Winter Sports starting in Term 2, and we want to thank all those that have volunteered their time to coach, manage or umpire a team.

We're still after a couple more players for the Year 1 & 2 Netball team. We also need a manager for the team. If your child (boys or girls) is keen, or your are interested in managing the team, please get in touch with Emma at eheagerty@waitoki.school.nz

Lastly, we're also after an umpire for the Year 7 & 8 team who are playing on Fridays at Rautawhiri Park. If you, or anyone you know in the community who isn't associated with the school, is keen to utilise or practice their umpiring skills, please let Emma know asap.

Student corner

Oceania Champs

Congratulations to Eden Sweetman and Piper Stubbs who recently competed in the Oceania Champs! Well-done to both girls for showing such grit and a positive attitude—we're so proud of you.



Harcouts Cooper & Co North Shore

On Sunday 17th March, Connor, Nathan and Aidan Bateman completed the 2023/2024 Harcourts Cooper & Co North Shore Run Series. They did a series of 4 x 2km races across the North shore starting in October of last year and this year. Nathan ended up receiving the 'Runner-up' (2nd out of 79) overall trophy for boys 7years and under (across all four races), and Aidan came in 7th out of 79 racers. Connor came in 4th overall out of 49 in the 8-10year old races.



Aroha 15th March 2024

Paul Heagerty
Presiding Member - Waitoki School Board of Trustees

Tēnā koutou, Tēnā koutou, Tēnā tātou katoa. Good afternoon everyone, it's great to be here and to see you all.

Thank you to Principal McCourt for the opportunity to talk with you today.

For those I haven't met yet, my name is Paul Heagerty. I serve the school as the Presiding Member or Chairperson of the Board of Trustees.

On behalf of the board, we wish all students, staff and families a happy, healthy and successful year ahead.

At the end of last year we sent an email out through the school to share the school's new Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is also available on the school website.

In that email we also shared that the board had endorsed a couple of new values for the school, created from school and community feedback. It's great to see these values already in use in the classrooms and through the certificates that have been awarded to students in today's assembly.

So a reminder of the updated G.O.A.T values which are now:

G for Grit
O for Ownership...so no changes there

And the two new Values are A for Aroha, and T for Teamwork.

For the staff, the school values are really important, as they give direction and clarity to their workplace, the place where they devote so much of their time and talents to nurturing these wonderful students.

So we ask that parents, caregivers and families also adopt these values in your partnership with the school and that you encourage your tamariki to live by these values throughout their time as Waitoki students.

We also ask all Waitoki students, especially the seniors who have a great opportunity to lead by example, to really give a big effort this year to show how you live by the school values.

Today, on behalf of the board, I will talk a little about one of the new values, Aroha, with the help of two students.

Hopefully most of us are familiar with the word Aroha, being the Te Reo Maori word for "Love".

So I welcome Bonnie and Ella to share their thoughts about our new value, Aroha.

====BONNIE AND ELLA SPEAK=====

Ka pai! Thank you! Let's show some Aroha for Bonnie and Ella!

Like Bonnie and Ella said, in its simplest terms, as one of our school values, Aroha means caring for one another, for ourselves and for our environment.

Waitoki School should always be a place where everyone is feeling safe and healthy. Living the Aroha value can help with this.

So, how can we show Aroha? Here are some of the ways we can:

- Showing respect and kindness towards one another.
- Listening and understanding other people's views.
- Working together with classmates and especially working in partnership with the teachers and staff.
- Talking politely and writing messages respectfully.
- Being compassionate. Showing empathy for one another.
- Caring for ourselves by speaking up when we feel uncomfortable about something that has happened.
- Following instructions from the teachers and staff who are doing their very best to help students learn and keep them safe.
- Aroha means being reasonable with what we ask people to do.

- Aroha means including classmates in activities so they don't feel left out. It also sometimes means giving people some space. And it definitely means respecting people's personal space.
- Aroha means being responsible in how we treat the school's buildings and rooms, the computers, devices and other learning resources, the pool, the playground and the outdoor learning areas and gardens.
- We can show Aroha by caring for the environment of the Waitoki and surrounding areas.
- And a big one is Aroha means having fun together, not making fun of each other.

We won't always get it right. Sometimes people have a bad day and might not act kindly. That doesn't mean we should act that way too. We should keep showing others how to live by the value Aroha through our example.

And if we do something that is unkind or disrespectful, we should take Ownership (another Waitoki value) of our actions and make things right again.

Thank you for listening. Thank you again to Bonnie and Ella. To Principal McCourt, staff and students, keep up the great work and keep looking after one another. To all parents, caregivers and families, thank you for your continuing support and partnership with the school.

Ngā mihi nui. Mā te wā!