

Kia ora e te whanau - another big week for New Zealand schools. Consequently, we start this week’s newsletter with a message from our Board of Trustees:

The government changed the Education and Training Act 2020; passing it through the third reading in Parliament just this week.

Section 127 of the Act, previously guided school boards via a set of primary objectives that covered academic achievement, student wellbeing, inclusion, safety, equity and honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi. It clearly charged boards to holistically care for, and enable kids to reach their potential in a safe, inclusive and culturally responsive environment. That has all changed. There is now just one overarching objective - academic achievement.

Totally unheralded last minute changes completely removed any obligation for school boards to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. (Also removed was the independence of the Teachers Council. Neither change was consulted upon - not even at select committee level).

The latest (largely imported) ‘Stanford curriculum’ severely downgrades the quality of learning to match the testing regimes being implemented. While academic achievement is important; effective education requires so much more than just knowledge that can be tested; an approach that assesses little more than an individual’s ability to memorise information.

The Waverley Park School Board of Trustees wants all of our learners to do well academically. Our kids bring a wide range of needs, interests, strengths and challenges that we need our school to cater for well. Poorly designed, culturally inappropriate, one-size fits all curricula; combined with inadequate, misfit testing; won’t do that.

Our board is concerned that these drastic changes to legislation, severely undermine what we value in our school, and the education we want for our kids.

Consequently, Waverley Park School remains fully committed to honouring, and giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Irrespective of government policy, we will work with our whanau, hapu, iwi, and wider community to continue doing so.

Ngā mihinui,
Andrea, Jade, Metua, Rebecca, Stacey, Tania; Raiha, & Kerry - Waverley Park School Board of Trustees

Waverley Park School – supported by the generosity of

Community Trust South

TE POU ARATAKI POUNAMU O MURIHIKU

8.00am - too soon? Yup - too soon.
In the interests of child safety - please make sure that your kids don’t get to school too early.

All school grounds are deemed to be open thirty minutes before classes start. Typically, that’s 8.30am but in our case, **it’s 8.20am** (our classes start at 8.50am) and our staff are usually committed to getting everything set up for the day.

So: for the sake of their safety, **please make sure that your kids don’t arrive at school before at least 8.15am.** While we usually have a staff member supervising road patrol teams from that time; we cannot guarantee that we will consistently have adult supervision available before that time. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation - they are as appreciated as they are necessary.

Invercargill City Libraries & Archives
TE HAAATA

My Kindness Compass

A sprinkle of kindness, goes a long way

Kindness shines with support from:

More details available [here](#)

Waverley Park School
– proud to be supported by the

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Whooping cough...
Unfortunately, it’s in our school. The official advice is: “Children with whooping cough **are advised not to attend early childhood services, school or other public places** for three weeks from when they started coughing or five days after starting antibiotic medicine. Adults are advised not to attend work or public places for the same periods of time.

Close contacts of a person with whooping cough who attend early childhood services, are in contact with infants less than 12 months of age or pregnant women, or who are health care workers, can complete a course of antibiotic medicine to reduce their risk of developing the disease. A whooping cough booster immunisation will not prevent the disease developing if there has been a recent exposure.” You can find out more at: <https://www.immune.org.nz/diseases/pertussis>

Putangitangi 2025 confirmed...
Thanks to the team at Southland Girls High School providing the venue; Friday 28 November sees Putangitangi going ahead. After all the hard yards that the Tuinga Tahi kids have put into; this is great news.

We don’t have a confirmed performance time yet; that and any other details we get we will share with you through the usual channels next week.

Frozen meals available...
Our friends and neighbours at the Harvestfield Church have frozen meals available for anyone in need. You are most welcome to contact **Kathryn Casey** | 027 379 5888 | directly. Thanks Harvestfield - your generosity is truly appreciated.

Paying us via internet banking?
A/c number: 12 3154 0103559 00
A/c name: Waverley Park School BOT
Payee: Your child’s name
Ref: Event name - eg: netball, camp, marae trip etc

The calendar...
November
21 Assembly - Kia Maia - 10.10am
28 Putangitangi - SGHS - performance time TBC
December
05 Assembly - Kia Kaha - 10.10am
Hui Whakapūmau - Yr 6 Marae Graduation
09 Board of Trustees - 7.30pm
11 End of year celebration
12 Reports sent home
15 Year 6 Graduation (combined)
16 Last day 12 noon

Keeping in touch - easy...

Phone 03 217 9332
Text 022 3179332
admin@waverleypark.school.nz
or use any Messenger, Skool Loop, Seesaw, or Edge app

Speaking of assessments...
Mick, a Melbourne local, applied for a specialist teaching position at Melbourne University. Tahu, a Kiwi resident in Melbourne, also applied for the job. Since both applicants had similar qualifications, they were asked by the recruitment manager to take a test. When the results were in, both men had scored 19 out of 20. The manager went to Mick and said, "Thank you for coming to the interview, but we’ve decided to give the job to the Kiwi." "And why would you be doing that when we both got nineteen questions correct?!" This being Melbourne and me being Australian; surely I should get the job!"

"Well actually," said the Manager, "we made our decision based on the question you got wrong." Mick exclaimed, "And just how would one incorrect answer be better than another?" "Pretty simple, really. On question seven, the Kiwi wrote down, 'I'm sorry, I don't know the answer to this' ...and you wrote, "Neither do I."

Until next week, ka kite.
Kerry Hawkins & staff

Waverley Park School
Thanks to the below businesses for sponsoring our school app:

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If you would like to advertise on the Waverley Park School Skool Loop App please email Content@skoolloop.com
To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose School once installed.



NZSL FUND
New Zealand Sign Language Fund
Te Tahiua Rau Rau Kōwhiri

NZSL Club is coming to Invercargill!!

Join us for NZSL Club – a fun and relaxed way to practise NZSL with others!

Date: Wednesdays, 7:00pm – 8:30pm
12 & 26 November, 10 December
Address: South Alive, 262 Ness Street, Appleby

Everyone welcome – Deaf and hearing alike.
Come along, learn, chat and connect in NZSL!



Website: www.mergenz.co.nz/nzslclub



EMAIL US AT
info@ksom.nz



The Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal 2025

The appeal runs 10 November – 24 December

For the 32nd year, we're supporting The Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal to help those in need at Christmas and beyond, because a little thought goes a long way.

Here's how you can get involved too:

- Place a gift under The Kmart Wishing Tree at any Kmart store.
- Scan the QR code and make an online contribution.
- Click The Wishing Tree logo at the checkout to donate a little extra.
- Drop your spare change in a collection box at any register.
- Give online at kmart.co.nz/kmartwishingtree



Thanks for helping those in need at Christmas and beyond.

kmart.co.nz/kmartwishingtree [kmart.nz](https://www.kmart.nz) [kmartnewzealand](https://www.kmartnewzealand.co.nz) #KmartWishingTreeAppeal



MUKA | YOUTH PRINT EXHIBITION

40 original lithographs by 20 prominent artists

Gore - 2 DAYS ONLY:

Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 November 2025, 11am - 4pm
Eastern Southland Gallery, 14 Hokonui Drive, Gore

Invercargill - ONE DAY ONLY:

Saturday 6 December, 11am - 3pm
Invercargill Public Library, 50 Dee Street, Invercargill

Prints \$90 | For more details visit: esgallery.co.nz