



AWHITU

DISTRICT SCHOOL



Empowering students to care, adapt and succeed with PRIDE

No 12: Monday 2nd September 2024

School Phones: 092351005 or txt: 0275247338



Congratulations

At the last assembly on Friday the following students were awarded certificates for a variety of achievements such as showing leadership, always making an outstanding effort, for hard work and demonstrating our PRIDE values.

Pride Awards

Te Whaanau Takahe R1: Finley and Emily
Te Whaanau Mokomoko R2: Kenneth, Oscar and Denis
Te Whaanau Honu R3: Melody and Melaia
Te Whaanau Kiwi R4: Makuini and Samantha
Te Whaanau Toroa R6: Ashyr, Carter and Judah

Class Awards

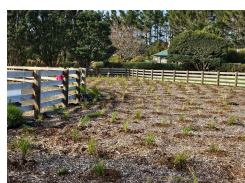
Te Whaanau Takahe R1: Hawaiki and Lainey
Te Whaanau Mokokoko R2: Majesty and Juno
Te Whaanau Honu R3 : Breana and Malakai
Te Whaanau Kiwi R4: Marlo and Tyson
Te Whaanau Toroa R6: Taufu, Stanley and Georjah

Principal's Award

Sophie H (Te Whaanau Takahe) and **Cullen R** (Te Whaanau Kiwi)

The next School Assembly is on Friday 13th September 2024 at 1.40pm

We had a very successful Cross Country Group and Zone Day events. Twenty nine students qualified to go on to compete in the Waiuku School's Group Day Cross Country which was held at Awhitu Regional Park. This was an awesome day, with 12 of our students qualifying to advance to the Zone Day Cross Country Competition at Pukekohe on the 29th August. At the Group Day Cross Country event, I'd like to extend a huge thank you to the Awhitu Fire Brigade for providing the First Aid support team, to John Allen for ensuring the course was set up and safe for the competitors, to all the parent and community volunteers who helped on the day including Jacqui Waldegrave, and to Jim (Flea) and Shona for donating the drinks that were sold on the day. Your support is really appreciated. Thank you to Mr Paul Humphrey for supervising the 12 students who went on to represent our school at the Zone Day competition. All these students did extremely well.



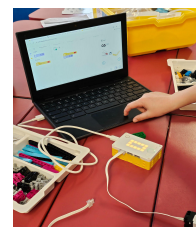
Another thank you goes to Nicky Reynolds and Lisa Field and the amazing team at Te Korowai o Papatūānuku, Awhitu Peninsula Landcare, for supporting the school to organise the planting of the dripper field beside the bus bay at school. This was a requirement by Auckland Council to comply with the Resource Consent. On Friday 23rd of August the area was planted. The planting was made a whole lot easier as one of our amazing parents, Chris Harris, drilled all the holes ready to just put the plants in. Thank you Chris!

Before the planting, Ngati Kaihau performed a Karakia to bless the planting. He also blessed the Pataka Kai. We owe Sue Baker an enormous thank you for continuing to ensure the Pataka Kai keeps running to support our community.



Matua Wynn continues to inspire our students with his delivery of Te Ao Māori. The students not only learn about the history of Aotearoa but are also learning to carve.

Laura Torpey also continues to deliver her "Little Labs" science programme to our students every second Wednesday. This term the students have been learning about fossils and dinosaurs and are learning to use some Lego Robotics.



“The Wizard of Oz” A matinee performance will be on Tuesday 24th September and evening performances will be on Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th September. You will be notified soon of the times and ticket sales. Miss Sweeney, the cast and all pupils and teachers are working hard to be ready to present an awesome show for your entertainment!

Ministry of Education Updates - School Absences / Ministry of Education Target

The Ministry of Education has stated that regular school attendance is vital to a child's achievement and has set targets to ensure 80% of students are present at school for 90% of each term by 2030.

“Going to school every day is important for students to develop skills for lifelong learning. There’s a clear connection between going to school regularly and doing well in the classroom. Regular attendance means the student is present for more than 90% of the term. Higher levels of educational achievement can mean better health, higher incomes, better job stability, and more participation in communities. This all makes society stronger and more connected. Making sure that students attend school regularly is a priority for us all. Students aged 6 to 16 years old are legally required to attend school every day. It’s everyone’s responsibility to make sure our children attend and engage in learning from when they first start school. Family holidays or taking time off for recreational activities are not acceptable reasons for being absent. “

In Term 2, Awhitu District School had 43% of our students attend regularly (90% of the time). Most of these absences were explained, but not justified according to the Ministry’s guidelines.

Justified absences are for when your children are sick or have medical/dental appointments and any immediate family emergencies.

An explained but not justified absence, is when children go on holiday during term time, have a day off for a birthday or shopping day etc.

Children are marked as truant if there has been no notification from parents/caregivers as to why the child is absent. The Ministry of Education collects this data from every school and reports back to each school on their attendance. The Franklin Attendance Service has a team who will be sent to students who are truant or struggle to attend school on a regular basis.

The Ministry of Education has provided these guidelines for when you should keep your child home from school:

You should keep your child home from school if they are:

- too sick to learn and need time to rest and recover
- have symptoms of concern including fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, sore throat, skin infections such as school sores, a new rash or difficulty breathing
- have tested positive for COVID-19
- a household contact of someone with COVID-19, they develop symptoms themselves and they are testing with a rapid antigen test over a 48-hour period to see if they present a positive result during that time
- have an infectious illness and have been advised to stay home by their local public health team or their healthcare provider.
- have head lice(nits) or scabies. Can return to school after treatments are given.

English and Maths refreshed curriculum areas:

It is a very busy time for the education sector. Next year, the Ministry of Education has mandated the introduction of both the refreshed English and Maths areas of the NZ Curriculum. These draft curriculum areas have just been released for principals and teachers to peruse and supply feedback to the Ministry. The final version of these refreshed curriculum areas will be provided to schools in Term 4.

To support schools in this, the Ministry has given schools a **Teacher Only Day in Term 4, on Friday the 15th November**. All the Waiuku Schools will be closed for this purpose on that day.

The Ministry has also mandated that this year, all teachers who teach Year 0 to 3 will need to be trained to deliver a Structured Literacy programme. Mrs Andrews is already trained and Mrs Williams is currently receiving Professional Development and training for this through Massey University.

Also, all staff are currently receiving Professional Development around the new English curriculum.

All of the Professional Development is being delivered by outside professional agencies.

Coming up this term so far... Please check the dates below for any changes and/or update

Week 8	School Assembly	Friday 13th September
Week 10	Wizard of Oz	Matinee Performance: Tuesday 24th September Evening Performances: Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th September
Week 10	Last Day of Term 3	Friday 27th September
Yr 7/8 Term 3 Technology Dates		6/9/24, 20/9/24

Nga mihi nui from the team at Awhitu District School

COMMUNITY NEWS

WAIUKU TENNIS CLUB - 4 Racecourse Rd Registration Day: **Thurs 19 or 26 Sept 4:30-6:00pm**. Looking for a new sport for the whole family? *Waiuku Tennis Club* is offering fantastic value for money this upcoming season! Come along to our Registration Afternoons or email waiukutennisclub@gmail.com. Season Fees: \$140 Senior, \$280 Family, \$95 Junior, \$75 Night Tennis (nonmembers) per term, \$30 Night Tennis (members) per term. *Follow us on Facebook and on Instagram for regular updates & club information.*

FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT - 6.00pm, Saturday 21st Sept Waiuku College. To register, please click on the link below: https://bit.ly/WCF_FamilyQuizNight_T4_2024 Tickets are \$120 per team (maximum of 6 adults per team) Payment options accepted - Eftpos @ school reception, bank deposit, invoice (registered businesses only). Food platters available- \$40 per team, Cash bar on the night (non-alcoholic drinks available), Spot prizes, auctions, and best-dressed awards!

PIANO EXAM Congratulations to Juno Hastings who Passed Initial Piano exam with Honours. [Gillian Salter](#).

We pride ourselves on being a club for everyone—no matter your age or experience level. With experienced coaches, excellent facilities, and a supportive team environment, there's no better place to play cricket this season.

Don't miss out on being part of the action. Register today and gear up for an exciting season of cricket with Waiuku District Cricket Club!

Register Now

For further details please check our FB page for PlayHQ Registration Links, or contact us via waiukucricket@gmail.com or hammadilyas@gmail.com



WDCC WAIUKU DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

Want To play cricket??

Sign up now
for the new season

Make Friends * Have Fun * Master Skills * Build Strength * Achieve Victory!
It's a great club for kids & their parents!

