



Waihola District School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 4 2025

Waihola District School: Empowering Responsible, Brave, Caring Learners.

Mā Te Huruhuru Ka rere te manu

Adorn the bird with feathers so it can fly

Principal's Message

Kia ora e te whānau,

As our school community comes to terms with the sad loss of Hugo, our hearts go out to his whānau and the wider community during what will undoubtedly be a very difficult time. We encourage everyone to take care of one another, to be kind, and to offer support wherever it is needed over the coming days. These moments remind us of the importance of empathy, compassion, and looking after each other as a community.



It has been truly moving to see the care and thoughtfulness of our students as they prepared cards for their friends who are going through so much today. Their caring and kindness reflects the strong sense of community and support that we value so highly at our school.

Amidst this, we are incredibly proud of our tamariki for the bravery, determination, and spirit they have shown in recent weeks. From performing at Polyfest to participating in the school cross-country, our students have risen to challenges, supported one another, and shown kindness — all reflecting the heart and values of our school community.

As we move through the coming days, may we hold the Johnston whānau in our hearts while also celebrating the resilience and kindness we see in our students. These qualities remind us that even in difficult times, our community can be a source of strength and care.

Cross Country

School Cross-Country – what a fantastic day! It was wonderful to see every student giving their very best, showing determination, perseverance, and bravery throughout the course. Even more impressive was the way our tamariki supported one another — cheering loudly from the sidelines, offering encouragement, and even running alongside classmates to help them finish. The sense of camaraderie and teamwork on display was awesome. A huge thanks to all the parents for their support — it made the day even more special for everyone involved!



Polyfest 2025

We are incredibly proud of the performance and the mahi that went into our Polyfest performance this week. The students should be very proud of how they represented our school community with confidence, creativity, and enthusiasm. The day was full of excitement — from the bus ride to the venue, to sitting in the



village watching the other performances, and having the chance to talk with performers from other schools. It was a wonderful experience for our tamariki to celebrate culture, showcase their talents, and enjoy the energy and vibrancy of Polyfest together.



For those who were unable to join us, we will at a later date have a small performance for our families here at school- stay tuned!

Classroom Upgrades: Construction Update

You may have noticed a distinct lack of construction happening at school lately. We have experienced some delays in obtaining the necessary consents. We are now hopeful that 15 September will be our new "breaking ground" date — fingers and toes crossed! Thank you so much for your patience and understanding throughout this process.

Swimming

Swimming – it's our last week of lessons! Over the term, our tamariki have made tremendous progress and are really enjoying the use of the new pool at Mosgiel – Te Puna o Whakaehu.



A huge thank you to Cook Howlison Toyota and the Saddle Hill Foundation Trust for the hire of their vans, and a massive shout out to our parents who helped with transport and/or supervised in the pool — you know who you are, and we truly appreciate you!



We look forward to returning next year in Term 3 to continue our lessons. A big thank you to Just Swim, whose instructors do a phenomenal job, and to Janene for organising the sessions so smoothly for us.



Dates for Term 3 2025 <i>(subject to change):</i>
Week Ten: Tuesday 9th Sept: Swimming (last session) 10-12pm Friday 12th Sept: Sports Activator 1.15pm Week Ten: Friday 19th Sept: Last Day of Term 3

WDS CONTACT DETAILS	
School Phone: (03) 417 7021	
Louise: principal@waihola.school.nz louise@waihola.school.nz	Fraser: fraser@waihola.school.nz
Petra: petra@waihola.school.nz	Office: Carlette admin@waihola.school.nz

