



Newsletter

Waitomo Caves
RD 7 Otorohanga

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Te Whakatipu i to Uira - Growing Your Glow

Term One 2025

Week Seven - 21 March

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Whanau and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is critical to achievement and Aotearoa New Zealand's future. Our attendance is lower than other comparable countries and attendance levels have been falling since 2015. This drop was evident before the Covid-19 pandemic, and attendance continues to fall.

At Waitomo Caves School, we continue to celebrate regular attendance.

Here is further information following last week's attendance notices that went home on Friday. Children who arrive at school on time are marked as P, for present in our Schools Management System (SMS). Children who arrive to class between 8.30am to 8.40am are considered L, for late. If children arrive at school after 8.40am they are coded in the SMS as E, with an explained reason for their absence which the Ministry of Education deems as an absence. We enter the time of arrival and consider them as P, present while it's coded E, explained. The Ministry set the coding and this links to our SMS. The Ministry also deems lateness as a form or truancy.



Waitomo Interschool Swimming Sports

This invitational swimming event took place on Friday 7 March. Congratulations to Kyrin and Lexi for competing and swimming so well in their heats.



Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

Kyrin King - 1st Boys 11yr 66 Yard Backstroke, 1st Boys 11yr & Over 33 Yard Backstroke, 2nd Boys 11yr & Over 33 Yard Freestyle, 3rd Boys 11yr 66 Yard Freestyle.

Lexi Green - 2nd Girls 11yr & Over 33 Yard Backstroke, 3rd Girls 11yr & Over 33 Yard Freestyle.



Waitomo - 4th Mixed 11yr & Over 33 Yard Freestyle Relay: Kyrin King, Lexi Green, Aria Bourke (PPC) & Mila Ormsby (PPC). Thank you so much to Aria and Mila for swimming in our team.

COP's Swimming

Three students qualified for the COP's Swimming Sports day on Wednesday 12 March. Congratulations to Kyrin, Lexi and Kadilay for more wonderful swimming. The results are: Heat 1, Boys 11yr 33 SC



metre freestyle - 3rd Kyrin King

Heat 2, Boys 11yr 33 SC metre freestyle - 1st Kadilay Winikerei

Heat 1, Boys 66 SC metre freestyle - 3rd Kyrin King

Heat 1, Girls 66 SC metre freestyle - 3rd Lexi Green

Heat 1, Boys 11yr 33 SC metre breaststroke - 3rd Kadilay Winikerei

Heat 1, Girls 11yr 66 SC metre backstroke - 3rd Lexi Green

Heat 1, Boys 33 SC metre butterfly - 3rd Kyrin King



Well done Kadilay who received a second place overall for Boys 11 yr 33 SC metre freestyle, and Lexi 4th overall Girls 11 yr 33 SC metre freestyle and backstroke.

Thank you to Cora Morrow of Kio Kio School for joining Lexi, Kyrin and Kadilay to make up our freestyle relay team.

Reach Award Recipients

Proudly supported by

thrive otorohanga youth trust



Congratulations to the following students:

Carlos Mendoza - for setting a great example of what good learning looks like.

Nichole Taane-Edwards - for setting high standards for herself to reach her goals.

Fay Wright - for being attentive during maths lessons.

Lizzy Wright - for working hard with 100% effort.

EC Paul - for fantastic progress in swimming lessons.

Duffy Book Role Model Visitor

On Tuesday we have the privilege of welcoming Lesley



Dowding to our school who will be accompanied by musician Aaron Bosch. Lesley believes a story is given up to the listener as they enter it and they can be transferred to other worlds. They can walk through walls, fly like Pegasus or enter a room through a keyhole. Lesley is an international storyteller, presenter, and published author. She organises monthly storytelling groups and facilitates workshops for teachers in the classroom, working alongside teachers and students.

Other Visitors Next Week

On Wednesday, we have Mandi Lynn from Click Happy joining Kauri Class for the day. Click Happy is an award winning wellbeing programme wrapped inside a photography workshop.

On Thursday, Ruben the Road Safety Bear visits Kowhai Class. Ruben gets a buzz in his fuzz from helping children learn about keeping safe around roads and traffic.

Community News

Harvest Rock Holiday Climbing - Ōtorohanga's Best Indoor Rock Climbing Centre

Monday 14th to Thursday 17th April 2025 Tuesday 22nd to Thursday April 2025

(Closed Good Friday, Easter Monday & ANZAC Day) 10.00am - 3.00pm each day

Pricing:

\$10 each for kids (under 14), \$15 each for adults (14 & over), Belaying only (14 & over) FREE.

*Under 14 years old must be accompanied by an adult for belaying.

*Bring your own water bottle and shoes to climb in please.

For further information contact Julian on 021 182 1203 or email at harvestrock@xtra.co.nz

Harvest Rock Centre, 5 Tuhoro Street, Ōtorohanga.

Board of Trustees News

The next Board of Trustees hui will be held on Tuesday 25 March at 2.35pm in the Principal's office.

Our Tamariki





What's Coming Up

Waitomo Caves Sports Day

Tomorrow is a big day for our school families to come together and contribute towards raising funds for our school that directly benefit the students.

If you haven't already provided baking to sell or Easter Eggs for the raffle please bring it down to the pavilion first thing in the morning. Staff will be there at 8.30am preparing food and setting up the pavilion for the day but we need parents to help please. Help is especially needed from midday onwards when staff have to leave.

Carter Wanden has impressed us with his initiative to make his burger speciality and sliders. Get along and support his fundraising venture for the school doing what he enjoys, and is good at! This picture is his homemade burger. Yum!!



Waitomo Caves Sports Day - Saturday 22 March

PAVILION CANTEEN - RAFFLES (Cash)

It's not too late, please come down to the pavilion and lend a helping hand.

22 March (Tomorrow)	Waitomo Caves Sports Day
25 March	Duffy Book Award Role Model Visitor
25 March	Board of Trustees Meeting
26 March	Kauri Click Happy
27 March	Kowhai Ruben the Road Safety Bear

Mrs Tamae Dimond, Tumuaki ☺