



Newsletter

Waitomo Caves
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Te Whakatipu i to Uira - Growing Your Glow

Term One 2025

Week Nine - 4 April

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Whanau and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Welcome to our last school newsletter for the term. Next week brings us to the end of Term 1. It has been an eventful term with lots of learning and plenty of swimming. It's certainly gone by quickly.

Thank you to Alannah for maintaining the school pool this season. Next week officially marks the end of swimming therefore the pool will be closed at the end of the day on Friday 11 April.

From Monday 28 April Mr Julian Dimond and myself are on annual leave until Friday 9 May to fulfill cultural aspects of my hereditary rights on Poutama Island. Waitomo Caves School will be fully staffed in our absence with Mrs Sue Dimond coming in as the Kauri Class teacher for this brief time. Since her time in Kauri Class last year Sue has visited on occasions and supported our tamariki at swimming sports. She is excited to be part of Kauri Class learning.

Waitomo Caves Sports Day

On Saturday 22 March, Waitomo Caves School continued with our tradition of running a canteen at the Waitomo Sports Day from the Waitomo Rugby Club's pavilion. This year we provided a variety of hot and cold food along with baking. Burgers and sliders were also sold thanks to Carter Wanden, a Year 8 student, who created, perfected, and made the very popular 'Burgers that Make you Smile!'.



Alongside the food, eight Easter raffles were also available to be won.

We would like to thank the following businesses and individuals who supported the school in our fundraising efforts for this day. Your support has helped us raise \$2,425.70 which will be going towards EOTC and new curriculum resources.



Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

To Waitomo Caves B&B Guest Lodge, The Tomo Bar and Eatery and New World Te Kūiti, thank you for providing monetary donations that were put towards the food for our canteen.

To Ōtorohanga Country Fresh Fruit & Vege Market, Waitomo Orchard Fruit & Gifts, Huhu Café, The General Store, Roselands, Alannah and Batch Batger, Dimond whānau, Kauri class and the whānau of WCS for providing food and baked goods for our canteen and baking tables.

To Waitomo Village Chalets, The Red Shed Waitomo, Michael's Milkbar, Haddad's Ōtorohanga, PGG Wrightson's and Livestock Te Kūiti, Danz Bagz, The Warehouse Te Kūiti, New World Te Kūiti, Big Bird B&B, Blackwater Rafting, Waitomo Museum and Discovery Centre, thank you for providing goods and chocolates for our Easter raffle baskets.

To Spellbound, Waitomo Top10 Holiday Park and Waitomo Adventures, thank you for donating vouchers and family passes to your businesses. These contributed to our Easter raffles.

Thank you to Caveworld Waitomo for continuing their tradition of sponsoring the \$100 note raffle. This year the lucky winner was John Gower.

Finally a big thank you to our helpers on the day who worked in the canteen, on the baking table, selling raffle tickets at the stall and around the grounds and at the burger station. Thank you Batch & Alannah Batger, Magda Jordan, Julian & Tamae Dimond, Kinneir Groube, Christine, Ellarose & Thomas McLennan, Carter Wanden, Talitha Poole, Matty Love, Harvie Wanden, Manu Paul and Brie-Ahna Green.

Easter Raffles. 8 chances to win a prize!

Winners - Rob Tahi, Brian Pitts-Brown, Monica Clark, Meagan, Steven Batger, Antony Stubbs, Akeelah-Rose, and Kinneir Groube.

Zero Waste Waitomo

Kauri Class participated in an exciting, hands-on learning event for students and teachers, organised by Waikato Enviroschools. This event was designed to offer education and inspiration for our school's waste minimisation journey. This is what we did:

- ✓ Explored fun, interactive Enviroschools Zero Waste activities
- ✓ Took part in a mini waste audit to understand where our waste comes from and how we can reduce it
- ✓ Visited Te Kuiti Transfer Station where we could see sustainable waste management in action
- ✓ Visited the maara kai - community garden



Community Assembly

We conclude the term with our Community Assembly so please come along to celebrate students learning. This will be held on Friday 11 April in the multipurpose room starting at 1.00pm.

Hockey

The hockey season begins in the first week of next term. We have a Junior B grade team consisting of Year 3 and 4 children. There are some keen FunSticks learners of skills and drills and we have a couple of Year 5 students joining the TKP team. Parents please pay sub invoices sent home of \$20 per player urgently. No pay, no play.

Year 9 Students

We recently heard from the Year 9's about their secondary schooling experiences so far and they have shared the following news. Well done Year 9's, keep up the great work.

Ellarose McLennan - Ellarose attends Ōtorohanga College and is enjoying her time there. She does all the normal subjects including science plus Māori. Her modules are music making, and STEM. Her favourite subject is STEM. Her favourite adult there is Whaea Jenny who is her thrive teacher. Recently she did breaststroke in the school swimming sports because that's her favourite stroke. She is in Hotson House, Brie-Ahna is in her class and she sees Laquera and Laz too. Ellarose has a best mate called Kapitea and she says four square is fun to play at break times.

Brie-Ahna Green - Brie-Ahna said things are good. Her timetable is english, science, social studies, maths, health & PE, Ōtomobiles, and begin beauty. Her favourite subject is maths. Her favourite teacher is Miss Flay who takes english. Brie-Ahna acknowledged that she has been prepared well at Waitomo Caves School ready for secondary school and things are going well for her. She's in Brown House and has joined the kapa haka group.

Laquera Haysom - Laquera enjoys Ōtorohanga College and does the basic subjects. Her modules are art, and cooking. She likes cooking because she's learning new things and mainly does baking. Her favourite subject is maths and Mr Grey is her favourite teacher. He teaches art. Laquera is in Brown House, has made multiple new friends and thought swimming sports was fun.

Manu Paul - Manu attends Te Kuiti High School and is really enjoying school and everything to do with physical activity where he's giving everything a go. Recently he participated in school athletics to then go onto King Country athletics competing in throwing events. Manu does science, maths, english, music and cooking. His favourite subject is music. His favourite teacher is his whānau teacher Te Oranga Anderson and he is in Rōrā Whare.

Community News

Holiday Programmes

Shoppington Te Kūiti

Make your own colourful finger puppets!! FREE for all kids aged 4-14 years.

Everything is supplied - on every WEEKDAY throughout the school holidays 10.00am-2.00pm. Children must be accompanied by a supervising adult. A koha collection box is available for those wishing to make a donation with all proceeds going to the 'I Am Hope' foundation for kids. For more information phone 07 878 6622.

Ōtorohanga District Library

Easter Holiday Crafts on Monday 14 April from 2.00pm - 3.00pm. Please phone 07 873 7175 or email library@otodc.govt.nz as registrations are required.

Help us create our ANZAC Day collage! Open to all ages from the young to the young at heart on Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 April. Join in any time during opening hours at Ōtorohanga District Library.

Board of Trustees News

Please be aware that during the April school holidays there will be no entry onto the school driveway and staff parking area as there will be concreting in progress and driveway repairs taking place. Thank you.

Our Tamariki



What's Coming Up

9 April	Vision and Hearing Checks
10 April	Kauri Class Space Centre Excursion
11 April	Community Assembly
11 April	End of Term 1
12 April	Waitomo Trail Run Aid Station Fundraiser
28 April	Term 2 Begins
5 May	KickStart to School Classes Resume
11 May	Mother's Day
15-16 May	Life Education
16 May	Next Newsletter

Mrs Tamae Dimond
Tumuaki ☺

